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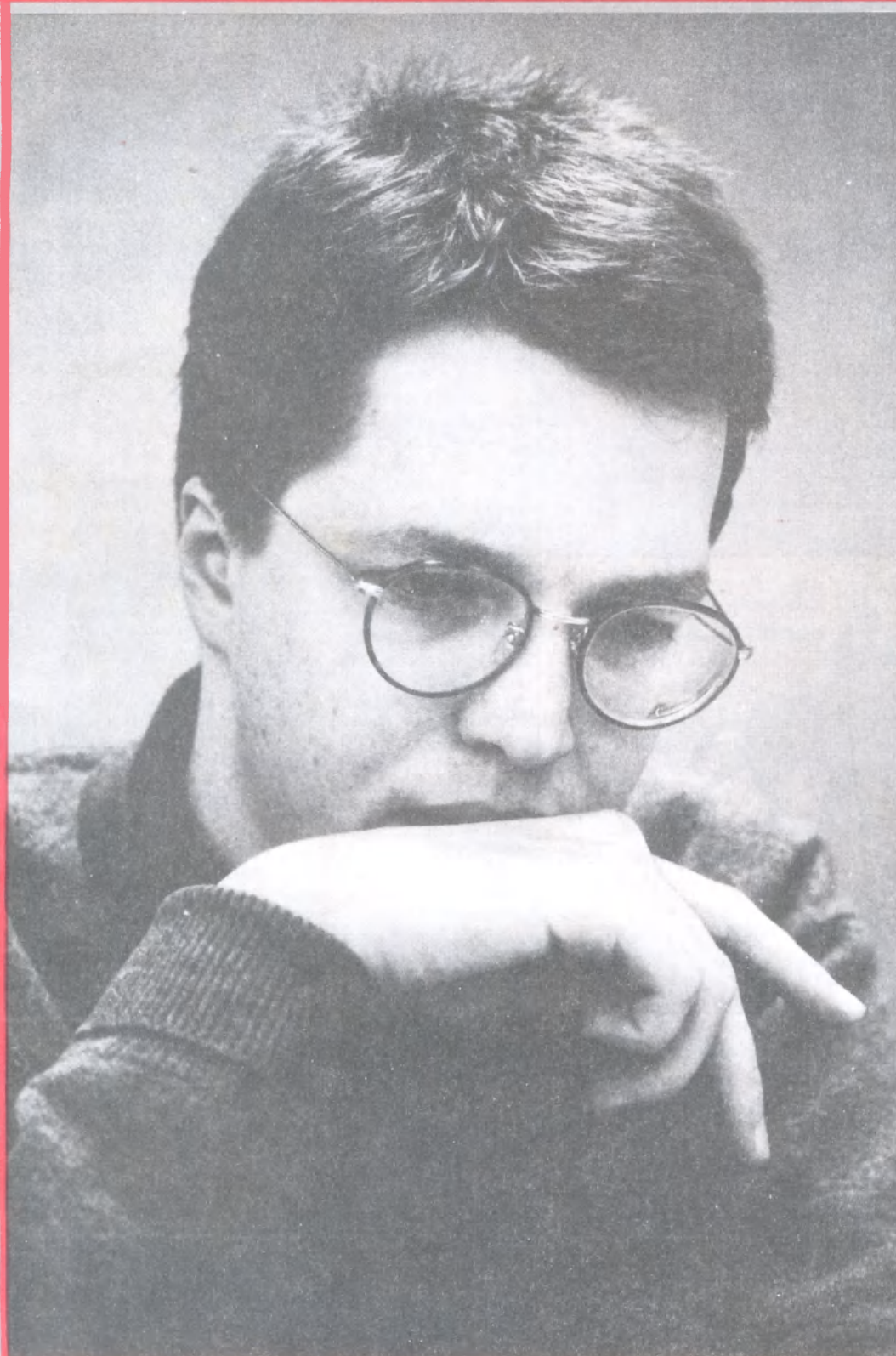
**The Best in Chess**

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# INSIDE CHESS

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**Short  
Defeats  
Timman  
7.5–5.5  
in  
Candidates  
Final  
\*  
Judit  
Polgar  
and  
Bareev  
Tie  
for  
First  
at  
Hastings**

# INSIDE CHESS

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February 22, 1993

Volume 6, Issue 3

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GM Yasser Seirawan  
**EDITOR**  
NM Michael Franett  
**ASSOCIATE EDITOR**  
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WFM Yvette Nagel  
Cora van der Zanden

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GM Walter Browne	PROOFREADER
IM Colin Crouch	Tom Berndt
WGM Elena Donaldson	NEWS BUREAUS
FM Ralph Dubisch	FIDE, GMA
GM Svetozar Gligoric	USA TODAY, USCF
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# Short Beats Timman 7.5–5.5

by WFM Yvette Nagel

The atmosphere in the pressroom was almost giggly as word of Karpov's 12-move loss to Larry Christiansen in the Hoogovens (Wijk aan Zee) tournament made the rounds. Soon, however, we had to get back to serious business. Jan and Nigel played a very interesting game today. This second Ruy Lopez, though, differed from Game Two.



*Note: Annotations to the games are based on the match bulletins and pressroom and participant commentary sent to us by Yvette Nagel.*

Annotations by IM John Donaldson

RL 29.3 Ruy Lopez Open C83

GM Nigel Short  
GM Jan Timman

El Escorial (6) 1993

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Nxe4

The Breyer Defense served Timman well in Game Two, but here he opts for the Open Variation of the Ruy Lopez, a longtime Viktor Kortchnoi favorite.

6.d4 b5 7.Bb3 d5 8.dxe5 Be6 9.Qe2 Be7 10.Rd1 O-O 11.c3

This avoids the reams of theory which follow 11.c4.

11...Nc5 12.Bc2 Bg4

So far Short has spent only three minutes to Timman's seventeen. This and the rapidity with which he played his next move suggest he and his second Lubomir Kavalek had come prepared for the Open Ruy. It's worth pointing out that English GM Michael Stean, who worked with Kortchnoi during the latter's World Championship runs, was in El Escorial to lend friendly support to his countryman.

13.b4!?



Photo by: Yvette Nagel

This brash, seemingly anti-positional move seems to be a novelty. Previously seen was 13.Nbd2 Qd7 14.Nf1 Rad8 15.Ne3 Nxe5 16.Rxd5 Bxf3 17.gxf3 Qe6 18.Bf5 Qf6 19.Ng4 Nxg4 20.Rxd8 Rxd8 21.fxg4, Shamkovich–McLaughlin, Chicago 1988.

13...Na4!?

In the pressroom Stean was amazed that Timman took only 17 minutes for this important moment in the game. Jan chooses piece activity at the expense of pawn structure, entirely in the spirit of the Open Ruy.

14.Bf4

Spanish IM Angel Martin points out in the bulletin that the aggressive 14.c4 would boomerang after 14...Nxb4 15.Bxa4 bxa4 16.a3 Nc6 17.cxd5 Bxf3 18.gxf3 Nxe5.

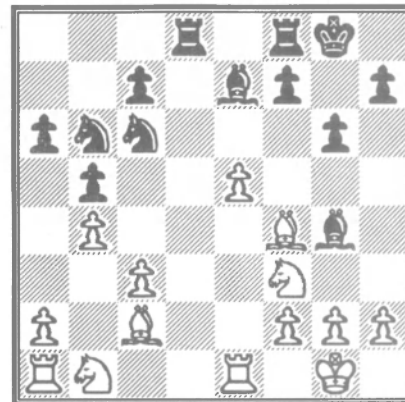
14...Qd7

Jan plans a promising sacrifice based on his superior development.

15.Qd3 g6 16.Qxd5 Qxd5 17.Rxd5 Nb6 18.Rd1 Rad8

(1:04-1:17)

19.Re1!?



White is heading for trouble. Perhaps Short could have avoided his coming difficulties by 19.Rxd8 Rxd8 20.e6 Nd5 21.exf7+, meeting 21...Kg7 by 22.Ne5 and 21...Kxf7 by 22.Bb3. However, IM Martin points out that after the plausible continuation 21...Kxf7 22.Bb3 Be6 23.Ng5+ Bxg5 24.Bxg5 Rd7 White still has trouble getting his pieces out of the box without dropping too many pawns.

19...Nd5 20.Bh6 Rfe8 21.a4

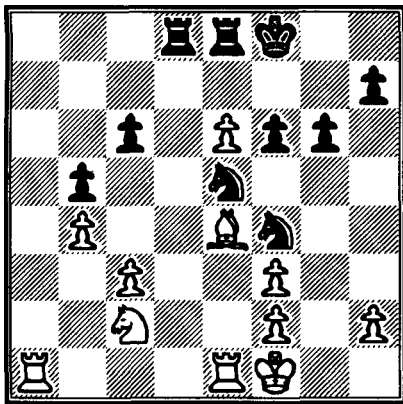
Martin suggests the immediate return of the pawn by 21.Nbd2 Nxc3 22.a3.

21...Bxf3 22.gxf3 Bf8 23.Bxf8 Kxf8

24.e6 f6?!

This appears to be an overfinesse. The straightforward 24...Rxe6 25.Rxe6 fxe6, with Black's lead in development, would give him a clear advantage, e.g., 26.axb5 axb5 27.Ra6? Ncxb4! Timman saw this, but felt the text was better. (1:31-1:36)

25.axb5 axb5 26.Kf1 Ne5 27.Be4 Nf4 28.Na3 c6 29.Nc2



When deciding on 24...f6 Timman had this position in mind. His intention was to play 29...f5, winning a piece, but now he realized that after 30.Nd4 the position would be far from clear, e.g., 30...fxe4 31.Rxe4 and Black's Knights get tangled up.

29...Nxe6 30.Ra6 Rd6

The active 30...Rd2? would be met by the shot 31.Bxc6!

31.Nd4 Nxd4 32.cxd4 Rxd4 33.Bxc6 Nxc6

An alternative was 33...Rb8 34.Rb1 Rd2, keeping the tension, but Timman sees some chances in the Rook ending.

34.Rxe8 + Kxe8 35.Rxc6 Ke7 36.Rc7 + Ke6 37.Rxh7 Rxb4

(1:53-1:57)

38.Rb7 g5 39.Rb6 + Ke5 40.f4 +!

Before Black gets in ...f5 and ...Kf4.

40...gxf4 41.Kg2 Rb3 42.h3 Kf5 43.Rc6 Kg5 44.Rc5 + f5

Also drawn is 44...Kh4 45.Rf5 f3 + 46.Kh2.

45.Rd5 Rb2 46.Kf3 Rb3 + 47.Kg2 b4 48.Rb5 Kg6 49.Rb6 + Kh5 50.Rb8

Accurate play. Waiting with 50.Rb5?! would spoil all of Short's good work after 50...Kg5 51.Rb6 f3 + 52.Kg3 f4 + 53.Kh2 Rb2, picking up the f-pawn.

50...Kh4 51.Rh8 + Kg5 52.h4 + Kg6

And not 52...Kg4?!, when 53.f3 + Rxf3 54.Rg8 + picks up a Rook.

53.Rg8 + Kf7 Draw

White had been able to get little from the opening in the first six games (Short's win in Game Four was the result of a Timman oversight). Jan chose the Exchange Ruy, an opening the two had never contested before. With 6.Na3 Timman went in for a side variation. He told me after the game that IM Hans Bohm had played this against Sammy Reshevsky a long time ago (later by phone Bohm told me it was a Fischer recommendation).

Ulf Andersson, who had been Timman's second in the 'last cycle', and Ljubomir Ljubojevic came to the pressroom today. Ljubo is well known for his loud voice and strong opinions. With barely a glance at the position, he flatly stated, "Short must sacrifice his Queen somehow!" This drew gales of laughter from the press corps. Ljubo had been in the room for barely a minute, and he was already sac'ing Queens! — YN

#### Annotations by IM John Donaldson

RL 8.2 Ruy Lopez Exchange C68

GM Jan Timman

GM Nigel Short

El Escorial (7) 1993

Time for a change. After scoring one out of three with 1.d4 Timman decides to try something different.

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6 dxc6 5.O-O Qd6 6.Na3

Something new in the Dutch GM's praxis. He chose 6.d3 in two previous games when faced with 5...Qd6, but here he aims for a speedy Nc4. Fischer mentions 6.Na3 in *My Sixty Memorable Games*, which was published in 1969.

6...Be6

On 6...b5 7.c4 leads to sharp play. Now if 7.Ng5 Bd7 8.Nc4, Black has 8...Qg6.

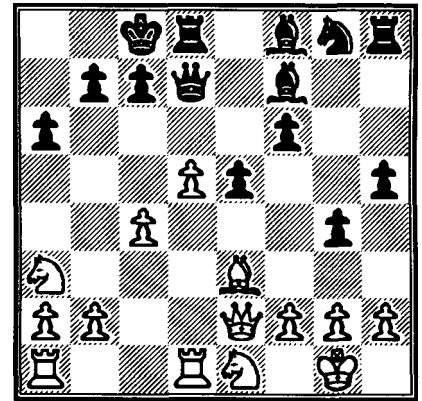
7.Qe2 f6 8.Rd1 g5?!

Over the board inspiration? Apparently, since the text was played after 30 minutes of thought. Theory gives 8...O-O-O 9.d4 Bg4, Dobosz-Smejkal, Trencianske Teplice 1979. 8...g5?! doesn't seem to be an improvement.

9.d4 g4 10.Ne1 O-O-O 11.Be3 h5

Short is already way behind on time (0:25-1:16).

12.d5 cxd5 13.exd5 Bf7 14.c4 Qd7



15.d6!

Starting to open up the position around Black's King. Now if 15...cxd6, White has 16.Bb6 Re8 17.c5.

15...Qc6

Nigel has only 30 minutes for his next 25 moves. He is just barely hanging on in the position. At first it looks like a clear knockout blow can be launched by 16.Nc5 with the idea of meeting 16...axb5 by 17.cxb5 Qc4 18.dxc7! Rxd1 19.Qxd1. But closer inspection reveals that Black can hold on with 17...Bc4 18.dxc7 Qxc7.

16.c5 Nh6 17.b4 Qa4 18.Nc4 Rd7?

The position is grim for Black, but better practical chances were offered by 18...Bxc4 19.Qxc4 Bg7, trying to trade some pieces and catch up in development.

19.Na5

Angel Martin gives 19.c6!? Qxc6 20.Nb6 + cxb6 21.Rac1. The text is also quite strong. Not only Black's King but also his Queen will soon be in grave danger.

19...c6 20.Nd3 Nf5 21.a3 Kb8 22.Nb2 Qb5 23.Qe1 Nxe3 24.fxe3 Bh6

With the faint hope of stirring up some complications after 25.a4 Bxe3 + 26.Kh1 Bf2. Timman's next move shattered that hope.

25.Kh1 h4 26.a4 Qxa5 27.bxa5 g3 28.h3 Bg5 29.Nd3 Ka8 30.Rab1 Re8 31.Rb6 Bd5 32.e4 1-0

A pretty boring game today. It soon became clear that Short would be satisfied with a draw. The Open Ruy was played, an opening that Timman has prepared for his last three matches. No one could remember when he last lost with it. — YN

# Annotations by IM John Donaldson

RL 27.2 Ruy Lopez Open C80

GM Nigel Short  
GM Jan Timman

El Escorial (8) 1993

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6  
5.O-O Nxe4 6.d4 b5 7.Bb3 d5 8.Nxe5

A seldom seen try by White. One advantage of the text is that the exchange of Knights allows White to mobilize his kingside pawn roller (f2-f4-f5) more easily. The flip side is that Black's c-pawn is also free to advance.

8...Nxe5 9.dxe5 c6 10.Nd2

Fischer also got very little from 8.Nxe5: he tried 10.Be3 Be7 11.Nd2 Nxd2 12.Qxd2 O-O with a draw in 31 moves, Fischer-Addison, U.S. (ch) 1966-67.

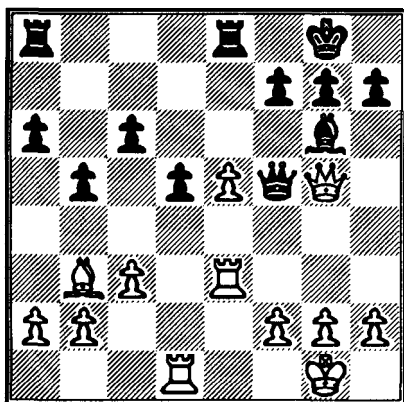
10...Nxd2 11.Bxd2 Be7

Both players are playing quickly; Short has spent two minutes so far and Timman ten. A short draw seems very likely.

12.Qh5 Be6 13.c3 Qd7 14.Bg5 Bf5  
15.Rfe1

Black has the intermezzo 15...Bg6 on 15.Be7.

15...Bg6 16.Qh4 Bxg5 17.Qxg5 O-O  
18.Rad1 Rfe8 19.Re3 Qf5



20.Qxf5 Bxf5 21.h3 h5 22.Rde1 Rad8  
23.Bd1 g6 24.b4 c5  
(1.16-1.16)

25.bxc5 Rc8 26.a4 Rxc5 27.axb5 axb5  
28.g4 Draw



This was a game that left the journalists and spectators flabbergasted. Timman again chose the Exchange Ruy, which was to be expected after his success in Game Seven. Nigel didn't want to debate the merits of 5...Qd6 anymore and went in for 5...Ne7, choosing a variation

that was thought in the pressroom to be dangerous for Black. Short's second Kavalek said of Timman's 14.Qxb7, "the man has *cojones*," not realizing the variation had been prepared at home. — YN

# Annotations by IM John Donaldson

RL 8.1 Ruy Lopez Exchange C68

GM Jan Timman  
GM Nigel Short

El Escorial (9) 1993

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Bxc6 dxc6  
5.O-O Ne7 6.Nxe5 Qd4 7.Qh5

7.Nf3 yielded White little in Rozen-talis-Piket, Groningen 1992, after 7...Qxe4 8.Nc3 Qg6 9.Ne5 Qf5 10.Re1 h5 11.d4 Be6 12.Ne4 O-O-O. See *Inside Chess*, Volume VI, Issue 2, page 28, for the conclusion.

7...g6 8.Qg5

GM Andy Soltis recommends 8.Nf3 Qxe4 9.Qa5! in his book *Winning With the Exchange Variation of the Ruy Lopez*. One recent example is I. Gurevich-Bronstein, Hastings Challengers ..., w/c cont nue ...b 10.Qc3 Rg8 11.Re1 Qd5 12.Ng5. In Timman-Nikolic, Brussels 1988, Black preferred 9...Qf4, but White was better after 10.d3 Qd6 11.Nbd2 Nd5 12.Ne4 Qb4 13.Qxb4 Nxb4 14.Bd2! Since White is doing well after 8.Nf3, it would be interesting to discover what improvement Short had in mind.

8...Bg7 9.Nd3 f5

Both sides have come prepared. So far Timman has spent two minutes and Short one.

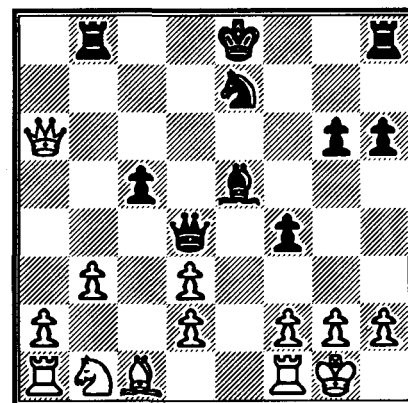
10.e5 c5 11.b3 h6 12.Qg3 f4 13.Qf3 Bf5

Played after a long think (0:10-0:33), but the position is still known to theory. If 13...Qxa1, then 14.Nc3 Bd7 15.Qxb7 O-O 16.Bb2 Qxf1+ 17.Kxf1 Rfd8 18.Qxc7 Rac8 19.Qd6 Nf5 20.Qxa6 was good for White in Frenkel-Shternberg, Yurmala 1975.

14.Qxb7

14.Bb2 Qd5 15.Nxf4 Qxf3 16.gxf3 O-O 17.d3 Nc6 18.Nd2 Nxe5 (Vladimirov-Ivanov, Sochi 1975) is assessed as unclear by *ECO* (Gipslis).

14...Be4 15.Qxc7 Bxd3 16.cxd3 Bxe5  
17.Qb7 Rb8 18.Qxa6

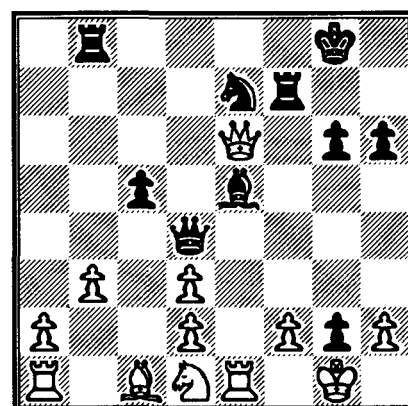


After 18.Qxa6 the Dutch journalists were in shock. What if Short takes the Rook on a1? Analyzing for several hours didn't produce any answers and it was only when the press corp queried Nigel directly that things became clearer. After 18...Qxa1 19.Qe6 Rf8 20.Re1 Rf5 21.Na3!! with threats of Nc4 and Nc2 Black is in dire straits. Note that 18...Qxa1 19.Qe6 Qxb1 fails to 20.Qxe5 Kd7 21.Qxc5. Smelling a rat, Short played instead. . .

18...f3 19.Nc3

Now it was Timman's turn to be careful. If 19.Qe6, trying to transpose to the above line, Black has 19...Rb6! and White is lost. For example, 20.Qxb6 Q\_4 or if the Queen moves, Black captures on a1. Now it appears that Short could have made a draw by 19...Bxh2+ 20.Kxh2 Qh4+ 21.Kg1 fxe2 22.Kxg2 Qg4+. Timman disagreed, saying that instead of 22.Kxg2, he would have played 22.Qa4+, since the resulting endgame (22...Qxa4 23.Nxa4 gxf1+ 24.Kxf1) would have favored him—an assessment that didn't find universal agreement.

19...fxg2 20.Re1 O-O 21.Qe6+ Rf7  
22.Nd1?!



Amazingly enough, up to this point everything was pre-match preparation for Timman, though that wasn't so ob-

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	0	1	2	3	
Short	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	1	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1	0	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	7.5
Timman	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	0	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	0	1	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	5.5

1. QGD Tartakover ..... Draw

2. Ruy Lopez Breyer ..... 0-1 JT

3. QGD Tartakover ..... 0-1 NS

4. Sicilian Richter-Rauzer . 1-0 NS

5. QGD Exchange ..... Draw

6. Ruy Lopez Open ..... Draw

7. Ruy Lopez Exchange... 1-0 JT

8. Ruy Lopez Open ..... Draw

9. Ruy Lopez Exchange... 0-1 NS

10. Ruy Lopez Breyer ..... 1-0 NS

11. QGD Exchange ..... 1-0 JT

12. Ruy Lopez Open ..... 1-0 NS

13. QGD Exchange ..... Draw

vious to the spectators, as both players had used up approximately the same amount of time (1:00-1:09). In fact, the Dutchman has confused lines. The next day Timman admitted to IM Gert Ligterink that 22.Nd1?! wasn't a recommendation of his second GM Jeroen Piket. Piket suggested it as a response after 20...Rf8 (instead of 20...O-O). Correct here was 22.Re2 Bc7 23.Qe4 (Timman).

23...Qxa1 23.Qxe5 Qxe5 24.Rxe5 Nc6 25.Rxc5 Nb4 26.Ba3??

Correct was 26.Bb2, when 26...Nxd3 27.Rd5 is a likely draw.

26...Nxd3 27.Rc6 Ra8?!

Not the strongest. After the game Short admitted that 27...Re8 28.Ne3 Kh7 29.Bd6 Rxf2 30.Bg3 Rxd2 31.Rc7+ Kh8! 32.Ng4 and now ...Rf8 or ...Nf4 would have been crushing.

28.Rd6 Rxa3 29.Rxd3 Rxa2 30.Ne3 Kg7?!

30...Ra5 was stronger (Short).

31.Kxg2?

31.Nc4 was a better try.

31...Ra5 32.Rd4 Rb5 33.b4 Rbb7 34.Rc4 Rfc7 35.Rg4 Rd7 36.h4 h5 37.Rg5 Rxb4 38.d4 Rf7 39.Rd5 Rb2 0-1

For the second time in the match, Timman has fallen a point behind. Fortunately, the Dutch GM has a lot of experience in this situation. In the previous cycle he was behind against Portisch and successfully fought back. In

this match he remained optimistic after Game Four. With only five games to go, Jan must regain his self-confidence for Game Ten. Ilse Timman told me that Jan had slept well, which is important, since nothing is more frustrating than having a lost game round and round in our head, depriving you of all chances for rest. — YN

#### Annotations by IM John Donaldson

RL 26.2 Ruy Lopez Breyer C95

GM Nigel Short

GM Jan Timman

El Escorial (10) 1993

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6 5.O-O Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 d6 8.c3 O-O 9.' 3 B' 7 10.d4 Re8 11.N' d2 Bf8 1'. '5

Deviating from Game Two where 12.Bc2 was played.

12...Nb8 13.Nf1 Nbd7 14.Ng3 Nc5 15.Bc2 a5

This looks to be a novelty. Previously seen was 15...c6 16.b4 Ncd7 17.dxc6 Bxc6 18.Bb3 h6 (18...Nb6 19.Bg5 h6 20.Bxf6 Qxf6 21.Nh2 Nc4 22.Ng4 Qe6 23.Ne3 Tseshkovsky-Timoshchenko, Sverdlovsk 1987) 19.Nh2 Nb6 20.Ng4 Nc4 21.a4 Tseshkovsky-Timoshchenko, Tashkent 1987.

16.Nh2 g6 17.Qf3 h5 18.Be3 Nfd7 19.Rad1 Qe7

(0:36-1:17)

20.Ngfl Bg7 21.Bc1 c6

Timman understandably wants some breathing room, but the opening of lines favors the better developed player—Short. As Nigel explained after the game: "I arranged my pieces so that they would be ready for ...c6."

22.b4 axb4 23.cxb4 Na4

Another possibility is 23...Na6, although 24.dxc6 Bxc6 25.Bb3 Nc7 (25...Nxb4 26.Qc3) 26.Qd3 would still favor White.

24.dxc6 Bxc6 25.Bb3

In the postmortem Short claimed that 25.Qd3 would have been stronger.

25...Rad8

Timman might have originally intended to play 25...Ndb6, but unfortunately for him, after 26.Bg5! Qxg5 27.Bxf7+ Kh7 28.Rxd6 Rf8 29.Rxg6 Black is busted.

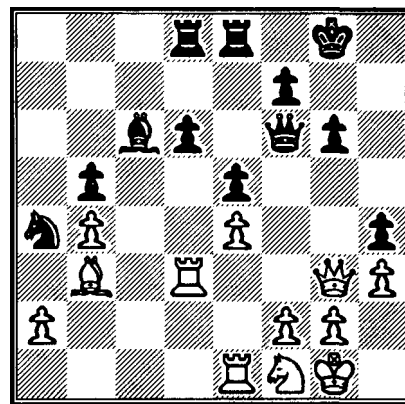
26.Qg3 Nf8 27.Nf3 Ne6 28.Ng5 Nxg5 29.Bxg5 Bf6 30.Bxf6

More accurate was 30.Bc1 Kh7 31.Qe3 Bg7 32.Nh2, going to f3 and g5.

30...Qxf6 31.Rd3

IM Angel Martin proposes 31.Re3! h4 32.Qg4 Bd7 33.Qe2 as an interesting alternative.

31...h4



Here 31...Rf8 would have been met by 32.Rf3 Qg7 33.Qh4 d5 34.Ng3 dxe4 35.Nxh5 exf3 36.Nf6+. At this point Timman had only 6 minutes to reach the time control, while Short had 40 minutes.

32.Rf3 hxg3 33.Rxf6 gxf2+ 34.Kxf2 Re7 35.Rxg6+ Kh7 36.Rg3 d5 37.exd5 Bxd5 38.Rd3 Nb6 39.Ne3 Red7 40.Nxd5 1-0

After this game the Dutch contingent was unconsolable. It seems impossible that Jan can make up the lost ground.—YN

After Game Ten the Dutch journalists had little reason to be optimistic with



Rea and Kyveli Short

Photo by: Yvette Nagel

Timman two points down and only four games to go. That evening in the pub the Beatles' song *Yesterday* with its haunting refrain, "Yesterday, all my troubles seemed so far away," was the theme song.

The next day, in an attempt to revive their flagging spirits, the Dutch journalists decided to call upon Saint Laurentius to aid Timman's cause and the Dutch contingent burned some votive candles in his honor at the Cathedral of the Monastery of Phillip II. Miraculously, their prayers were answered. Perhaps Laurentius is the patron saint of Rook- and-pawn endings! — YN

#### Annotations by IM John Donaldson

QO 16.2 QGD Exchange D36

GM Jan Timman  
GM Nigel Short

*El Escorial (11) 1993*

1.d4 d5 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.cxd5 exd5 5.Bg5 c6 6.Qc2 Be7 7.e3 Nbd7 8.Bd3 Nh5 9.Bxe7 Qxe7 10.Nge2 Nb6 11.O-O-O g6 12.Kb1 Ng7 13.Ng3 Bd7 14.Rc1 O-O-O 15.Na4 Nxa4 16.Qxa4 Kb8 17.Rc3 b6 18.Ra3

This appears to be the first new move of the game. Kasparov-Andersson, Reykjavik 1988, saw 18.Ba6!? (18.Rhc1 Rc3, intending ...Rc7) 18...Ne6 19.Rhc1 Rhe8 20.Qb3 Qd6 21.Nf1 Ka8! 22.Nd2 with unclear

play.

18...Be8 19.Qc2 Rc8 20.Rc1 Bd7 21.Qd2 h5 22.Rb3 Ne6 23.Rbc3 h4 24.Ne2 Qd6

At first it looks like 24...h3 is a shot, but White has a nice defense in 25.g3 Ng5 26.Qe1 Nf3 27.Qh1 Qf6 28.Nf4 Bg4 29.Be2 and the Black pieces have to retreat.

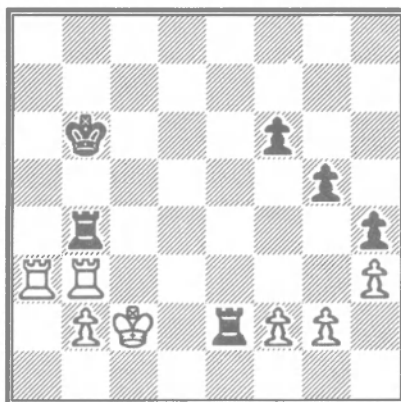
25.h3 Rhd8?! 26.Ng1 g5 27.Nf3 f6 28.R3c2 Ng7 29.Ka1 Bf5 30.Ne1 Kb7 31.Rc3 Bxd3

This exchange has the drawback of weakening c6.

32.Nxd3 Nf5 33.Qc2 Ne7 34.Qa4 Ka8 35.a3 Qd7 36.Nb4 Kb7 37.Rb3 c5 38.Qxd7 + Rxd7 39.dxc5 d4 40.exd4 Rxd4 41.Nd3 Nd5 42.Kb1 Re8?

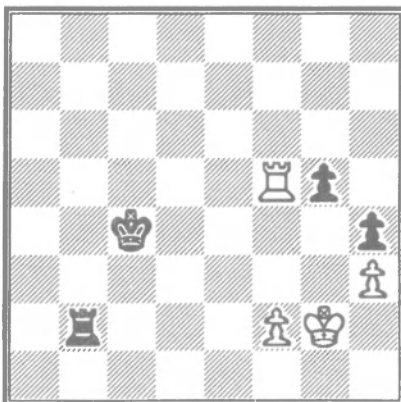
According to Timman, this is a mistake, the correct move being 42...a5, forcing 43.a4.

43.cxb6 axb6 44.a4 Ka7 45.a5 bxa5 46.Rc5 Nb4 47.Rxa5 + Kb6 48.Nxb4 Rxb4 49.Raa3 Re1 + 50.Kc2 Re2 + ?



This just improves the position of White's King. Correct was 50...Kb5 and the enemy King doesn't have time to reach e2.

51.Kc1 Kb5 52.Rxb4 + Kxb4 53.Rf3 Re1 + 54.Kd2 Rg1 55.Ke2 Kc4 56.Rxf6 Rxb2 57.Kf1 Rh2 58.Rf3 Rh1 + 59.Kg2 Rb1 60.Rf5 Rxb2



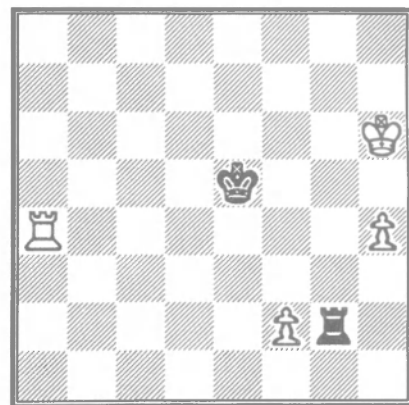
At this point the game was adjourned. Timman, who looked exhausted, stated, "I must be very wrong if this isn't winning. I don't see how the Black King will avoid being cut off."

Yvette Nagel reports that during the adjournment, Dutch interest in the match reached a fever pitch. IM Gert Ligterink remarked that his newspaper de Volkskrant was flooded with calls about the adjourned position. The newspaper said that this hadn't happened since 1979, when Timman was close to qualifying for the Candidates from the Rio de Janeiro Interzonal. When the game was resumed, both players made the first moves quickly. The boys had done their homework well.

61.Kf3 Rb1 62.Rxg5 Rf1 63.Rf5 Rg1 64.Rh5 Rf1

On 64...Rg8 White wins by 65.Ke4 Re8 + 66.Re5 Rg8 67.f4 Rg3 68.f5 Rxb3 69.f6 Rh1 70.f7 Re1 + (70...h3 71.Rc5 +!) 71.Kf5 Rf1 + 72.Ke6 h3 73.Re2 Kd3 74.Rh2 Rf3 75.Rxb3 (Timman).

65.Rxb4 + Kd5 66.Rf4 Ke5 67.Kg2 Ra1 68.Rf8 Ke6 69.h4 Ke7 70.Rf4 Ra8 71.Kh3 Rh8 72.Kg4 Rg8 + 73.Kh5 Ke6 74.Kh6 Ke5 75.Ra4 Rg2?



Short thought for half an hour before playing this move. His position may be irrevocably lost, but he can offer tougher resistance with 75...Kf6. After 76.Ra6 + Timman gives the following analysis: (1) 76...Kf5 77.h5 Rh8 + 78.Kg7 Rxb3 79.Ra5 + Kg4 80.f3 + Kh4 81.Rxb3 + Kxb3 82.Kf6, winning; (2) 76...Kf7 77.Ra3 Rh8 + (77...Rb8 78.Kh7) 78.Kg5 Rg8 + 79.Kf5 Rg2 80.Ra7 + Kg8 81.f4, also winning.

76.f3 Rg3 77.Re4 + Kf5 78.Re8 Rg6 + 79.Kh7 Rf6 80.Kg7 Rg6 + 81.Kh7 Rf6 82.Re7 Ra6 83.Rf7 + Ke6 84.Kg7 Ra1 85.Rf6 + 1-0



In Timman's situation of being one point down with three games to go, the crucial thing is not to lose with Black today. The pressure was on Nigel also, because he had seen his two-point lead cut in half when the match seemed to be in the bag. That Nigel had the White pieces in two of the last three games was a source of comfort to him, but in this match White had been able to do little and Black often equalized easily. Let's see how they handled today's tense situation. — YN

#### Annotations by IM John Donaldson

RL 30.2 Ruy Lopez Open C82

GM Nigel Short  
GM Jan Timman

El Escorial (12) 1992

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6  
5.O-O Nxe4 6.d4 b5 7.Bb3 d5 8.dxe5

Nigel goes back to the main lines after getting less than nothing with 8.Nxe5 in Game Eight.

8...Be6 9.c3

Short tried 9.Qe2 Be7 10.Rd1 O-O 11.c3 in Game Six. With 9.c3 he enters one of the most deeply analyzed theoretical lines in the Open Ruy.

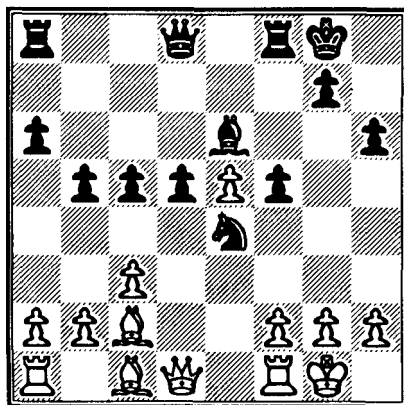
9...Bc5 10.Nbd2 O-O 11.Bc2 f5

Timman has extensive experience with the popular alternative 11...Bf5, having played it several times in his 1989 Candidates match with Speelman.

12.Nb3 Bb6 13.Nfd4 Nxd4 14.Nxd4 Bxd4 15.Qxd4

The complications arising from 5.c3 4.f4 6.f3 Ng3 7.hxg3 f3g3 18.Qd3 Bf5 19.Qxf5 Rxf5 20.Bxf5 Qh4 21.Bh3 Qxd4+ 22.Kh1 Qxe5, famous since Smyslov-Reshevsky, USSR-USA 1945, have never been completely worked out.

15...c5 16.Qd1 h6!?



The first new move of the game and not

the result of preparation. Short had spent 12 minutes and Timman only 8 up to White's sixteenth, but for 16...h6 the Dutchman went into a 42-minute huddle.

17.f3 Ng5 18.Be3 Rc8 19.Qd2 a5 20.Rad1 Qe7 21.Bb1 Kh8 22.Rfe1 Rc7 23.Bf2 b4 24.h4?!

Very provocative. More circumspect was 24.Qd3.

24...Nh7 25.Qd3 g5 26.Qa6

Mixing things up. Now if 26...gxh4, Short had 27.Qd6 Qg7 28.Bxh4! and not 28.Qxe6 Ng5 29.Qxd5? Nh3+ 30.Kf1 Nf4 — analysis by IM Angel Martin in the bulletin.

26...Rfc8 27.Re2

More active moves rebound, 27.Qd6 is met by 27...Qf7 with ...Rc6 in the offing and 27.Qxa5 would be risky in view of Black's potential attack on the kingside.

27...Rc6 28.Qd3

Avoiding 28.Qxa5 gxh4 29.f4 bxc3 30.bxc3 Rg8.

28...gxh4

Timman now has the better position on the board, but Short has the edge on the clock — 1:24-1:40.

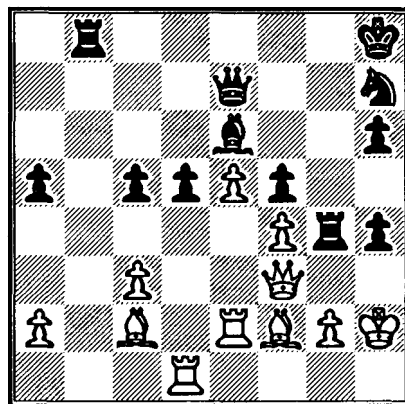
29.f4 Rg8

Timman expressed dissatisfaction with this move after the game preferring 29...Nf8 with ...Ng6 to follow. At this point the tremendous tension and impending time pressure produce inaccuracies by both sides.

30.Qf3 bxc3 31.bxc3 Rb6

"This just loses a tempo. Instead 31...Rc8 was to be preferred." — Timman.

32.Bc2 Rg4 33.Kh2 Rb8



34.Rxd5!?

An excellent practical solution that inflicts complications upon Timman's time pressure.

34...Bxd5 35.Qxd5 Rxf4 36.Bxc5 Qg7 37.Bd4 Re8!

The best move. The tempting 37...Rf1

leads to no more than a draw after 38.e6 Nf6 39.Bxf6 Qxf6 40.e7 Re8 41.Qe5 Kg7 42.Ba4 Qxe5 43.Rxe5 Kf7 44.Bxe8+ Kxe8. Now Timman was down to four minutes, while Short had seven left for the remaining three moves.

38.Qd6 Qg3+?

Most likely the losing move of the match. Things could have been much different after 38...Rf1 when A) 39.Re3 f4 (39...Rf2 40.Qc6 Rg8) 40.Rh3 Rg8, B) 39.e6 Nf6 and C) 39.Bf2 h3! all favor Black.

39.Kg1 h3 40.Rf2!

Overlooked by Timman, who admitted after the game that he thought he was winning after 39...h3.

40...h2+?

On the last move of time control Black throws away his final chance. Instead 40...Rxd4 41.Qxd4 Ng5 42.Qf4 Qxf4 43.Rxf4 Rxe5 and Black is doing fine.

41.Kh1 Rxd4 42.Qxd4 Nf6 43.Re2 Nh5 44.e6+ Qg7 45.Kxh2 f4? 46.Bg6 1-0

By early afternoon today the street in front of the theater playing site filled up with press, TV crews and many spectators in anticipation of the last game between the two matadors, Timman and Short. The tension was high. Timman's children, Arthur and Dehlia, arrived the day before to wish their father luck and to support him in his final effort.

When the doors of the theater opened, the 300-seat playing hall was quickly filled. Camera crews and photographers crowded the stage. Timman and Short shook hands and took their places at the board, while Luis Rentero and the Mayor of El Escorial stood smiling at the board and graciously made themselves available to the photographers also.

Timman and White could only a win would prolong the match. Not surprisingly Timman had announced that he would "play the stiletto variation," meaning his play would be sharp as a knife. — YN

#### Annotations by IM John Donaldson

QO 16.2 QGD Exchange D36

GM Jan Timman  
GM Nigel Short

El Escorial (13) 1993

1.c4 e6 2.Nc3 d5 3.d4 Nf6 4.cxd5 exd5



5.Bg5 c6 6.Qc2

Denying Short the opportunity of repeating 6.e3 Bf5 of Game Five.

6...Be7 7.e3 Nbd7 8.Bd3 O-O

i' n i p.

Game 11, which ended in victory for Timman, saw 8...Nh5.

9.Nge2 Re8 10.O-O g6

The two Candidates finalists are not strangers to this position. Here 10...Nf8 11.f3 Nh5 12.Bxe7 Rxe7 13.Qd2 Ne6 14.Rad1 g6 was Timman-Short, Amsterdam 1992, which ended in a draw in 49 moves.

11.f3 Nh5 12.Bxe7 Qxe7 13.e4 Nb6 14.e5 c5 15.g4

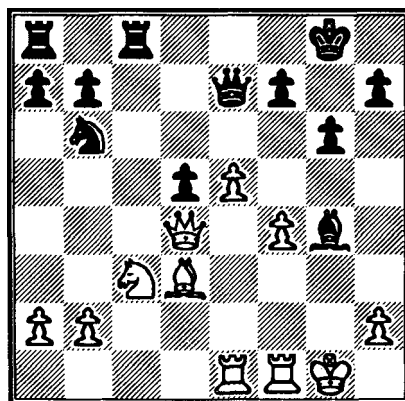
The alternative 15.Bb5 might be met by ...cxd4 6...xe7 dxc7 7...a7 cxb7 - 17 Angel Martin.

15...Ng7 16.Nf4

Plagued by time trouble difficulties throughout the match Timman is heading for major *Zeitnot* once again. He used only 15 minutes for his first 13 moves, but spent 15, 21, and 23 minutes respectively on his last three turns. Short, by contrast, has been a model of practicality having

used only 19 minutes so far.

16...Be6 17.Qf2 Rec8 18.Nfe2 Bd7 19.Rae1 Ne6 20.f4 cxd4 21.Nxd4 Nxd4 22.Qxd4 Bxg4



23.e6 fxe6 24.f5 Qc5 25.Qxc5 Rxc5 26.fxg6 hxg6

[1:46-1:05]

27.Rf6 Rc7 28.Nb5 Rg7 29.Nd4 Nd7 30.Rf4 Bf5 31.Nxe6 Bxe6

31...Re8 32.Bxf5 (32.Nxg7 Rxe1 + 33.Kf2 Bxd3) 32...gxf5 33.Nxg7 Rxe1 + 34.Kf2

32.Rxe6 Nc5 33.Re3 Nxd3 34.Rxd3 Rd7

35.Rfd4 Rad8 36.Kg2 Re8 37.Rxd5 Rxd5 38.Rxd5 Re2 + 39.Kg3 Rxb2 Draw

The last 15 moves or so were played as if it were a 5-minute game and Nigel's refused.

For the second time in his career Timman was unable to win the Candidates final. Timman said later, "Sometimes you have to fail twice to be successful the third time." This had been the case for Jan in his first two zonal tournaments, Helsinki 1972 and Reykjavik 1975.

This, of course, represents the high point of Nigel Short's career. At 27, he is the first English GM to play for the FIDE world title. In the next game, Timman made his first appearance in the press center of the match. He was interviewed by the BBC with his happy wife and child at his side. His second, Lubo Kavalek, watched at a little distance, a smile on his face.

*I would like to thank my Dutch colleagues for their time and patience in analyzing the games of the match — YN*

# Zsuzsa Polgar Unveils Her Mystery in China

by GM Julio Granda

Translated by GMC Jonathan Berry

When Zsuzsa Polgar decided to take part in the Women's Candidates tournament, all she thought of was to be well prepared to confidently play the role of favorite. She didn't just want to qualify, but to make the best result possible.

At first even the site of this important event was unknown. We never suspected that the event would take place in far-off and enigmatic China. The journey ahead appeared fantastic and unpredictable. Its end promised the revelation of two mysteries. First, what was the real situation in China, an emerging economy overflowing with changes? Second, would the eldest Polgar demonstrate her superiority in an all-woman field, a chess forum she had previously refused to join?

Shanghai—now dynamic, noisy and overpopulated—played host in one of its best hotels. The immense flowering garden allowed the players to draw inspiration from languid strolls or to pace away a bitter defeat.

The tournament took place from November 1 to 24 in eighteen hotly contested rounds.

An intimation of Zsuzsa's triumphal march could be glimpsed in the very first game. She defeated Peng with Black, while the others were drawing one another. After only ten rounds she had a lead of 4 points!

With that question out of the way, the real fight was for second place. Three players took part: ex-champion Maya Chiburdanidze, previous semifinalist Alisa Maric and former challenger Nana Ioseliani. The other players—with the exception of the Chinese who at all times maintained a kind of monastic discipline—limited themselves to the role of spoilers and availed themselves of every opportunity to go shopping.

As an eyewitness of the tournament, I should make special mention of the or-

ganization, which when necessary, even faced down various governmental bodies, unequivocal proof of the new status of chess. With the ascension of Xie Jun to the world championship, millions now pay attention to chess in China.

Zsuzsa Polgar and Nana Ioseliani will dispute the Candidates final match February 13 to 27 in Monte Carlo. Meantime Xie Jun awaits, serene.

EO 24.4 English A20

WGM Nana Ioseliani

WGM Irina Levitina

Shanghai 1992

1.c4 e5 2.g3 Nf6 3.Bg2 c6 4.Nf3 e4 5.Nd4 d5 6.cxd5 Qxd5 7.Nb3 Qh5 8.h3

The simple—and necessary—way to snuff out Black's threat of ...Bh3.

8...Qg6 9.Nc3 Bd6 10.O-O

No great shakes is 10.Qc2 e3 11.Qxg6 exf2+ with an even game.

10...O-O

Black's pieces may not immediately swarm about White's castled position because of the central break d2-d3.

11.d3 exd3 12.e4!

White makes clear her advantage with this move. She controls the center and has better piece placement.

12...Bc7 13.Qxd3 Na6 14.Qe2 Re8 15.Be3?! h5?

Black passes up an opportunity: 15...Nxe4! 16.Nxe4 Rxe4 17.Bxe4 Qxe4 18.Nd2 (and not 18.Kh2 because of 18...Qh4!) 18...Qg6 with promising compensation.

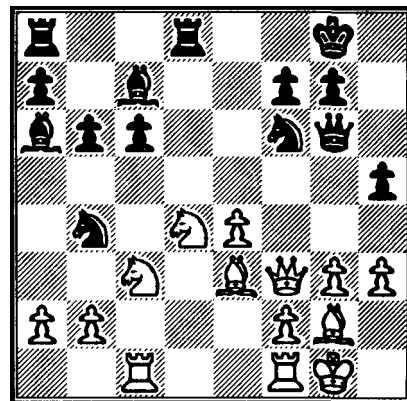
16.Nd2 Nb4 17.Rac1 Rd8 18.Nf3 b6?!

Missing the latest chance to save a sick position. Better was 18...Nxe4 19.Nxe4 (no good is 19.Nh4 because of 19...Nxc3 20.bxc3 Qd3! 21.Qxh5 Nd5 and Black has no problems) 19...Qxe4 20.Ng5 Qg6 21.Be4 Bf5 22.Bxf5 Qxf5 23.Qxh5 Nd5 24.Rc4 Rd6! with rough equality.

19.Nd4! Ba6?!

Although tempted to win the Exchange, Black should have tried to put up a stiffer resistance with 19...Be5 20.Rfd1

Ba6 21.Qf3 Bxd4 22.Bxd4 Nd3! 23.Bxf6 gxf6 24.Rb1 h4!, complicating the game. 20.QB3



20...Bxf1?!

Even now the game could be rescued by resisting the temptation to win the Exchange. The bad placement of Black's pieces, especially the Queen, is too dangerous. Much better was 20...Nd7!! 21.Nf5 Ne5 22.Ne7+ Kh7 23.Qf4 Qf6 (not 23...Qe6 due to 24.Qg5, winning) 24.Qxf6 gxf6 25.Rfd1 Nc4! with initiative.

21.Bxf1 Be5 22.Nf5 Kh8 23.a3 Nd3 24.Ne7! Qh7 25.Nxc6!

White has attained an overwhelming position, all because Black did not sense the danger.

25...Bxc3 26.Rxc3 Ne1 27.Qe2 Re8 28.Qxe1 Qxe4 29.Bg2 Qa4 30.Ne5 1-0

SL 3.3 Slav D15

GM Nona Gaprindashvili

GM Zsuzsa Polgar

Shanghai 1992

1.d4 d5 2.c4 dxc4 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 c6

Black has astutely transposed into a Slav Defense.

5.e4

The most ambitious, but also the most risky, continuation.

5...b5 6.e5 Nd5 7.a4 Bf5

A little-known and interesting move which fulfills its surprise role.

8.Be2?

Unfamiliarity, rather than fear, prompted White to avoid the theoretical recommendation 8.axb5 Nb4 9.Bxc4 Nc2+ 10.Ke2 Nxa1 11.Qa4 with both positional and attacking compensation.

8...b4 9.Nh4?!

Better was 9.Na2, though Black already holds the initiative.

9...bxc3 10.Nxf5 e6 11.Ng3 cxb2 12.Bxb2 Bb4+ 13.Kf1 c3 14.Bc1 O-O

15.Ne4 Nd7 16.Bd3 f5

After this thematic make-or-break assault on the center, the agony of White's position is evident.

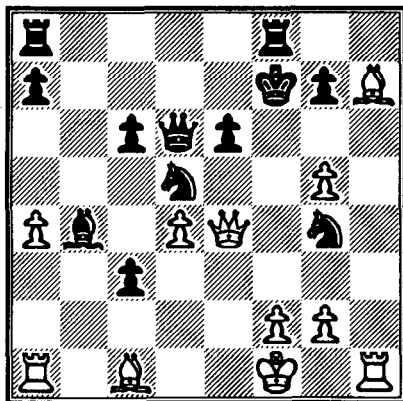
17.exf6 N7xf6 18.Ng5

No good is 18.Bg5?? Nxe4 19.Bxd8 Ne3+, winning.

18...Qc6 19.c2 h6 20.h4

A vain attempt to complicate the game in a lost position.

20...hxg5 21.hxg5 Ng4 22.Bh7+ Kf7 23.Qe4



23...Nxf2! 24.Kxf2 Ke7+ 25.Ke2

White could put up more resistance with 25.Kg1, but after 25...Qg3 26.Qh4 Bd6! Black still wins.

25...Qg3

And after torturing herself for 43 minutes, White decided to resign rather than face the multiplying threats, 26.Kd1 c2 26.Rf1 Rxf1 27.Kxf1 Rf8 28.Kg1 Qf2+ 29.Kh1 Bd6 both win.

0-1

SI 31.5 Sicilian Rossolimo B30

WGM Nana Ioseliani  
GM Zsuzsa Polgar

Shanghai 1992

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5

Avoids the Pelikan and develops a setup familiar to and comfortable for White in the opening.

3...e6 4.O-O Nge7 5.c3 a6 6.Ba4 b5 7.Bc2 Bb7 8.a4

If 8.d4 cxd4 9.cxd4 Nb4 is good for Black.

8...Ng6 9.Re1

Another possibility is 9.axb5 axb5 10.Rxa8 Qxa8 11.d4 cxd4 12.Nxd4 Nxd4 13.Qxd4 with a small edge for White in Rohde-Granda, Tilburg 1992.

9...Rc8 10.axb5 axb5 11.d4

For now the weakness at b5 cannot be exploited by 11.Na3 because of 11...Qa5!

11...cxd4 12.cxd4 Nb4 13.Bb3 Rxc1

The idea behind 9...Rc8.

14.Qxc1 Nd3 15.Qe3 Nxe1 16.Qxe1

Interesting was 16.Nxe1.

16...Be7 17.Nc3 O-O

Also possible was 17...b4 18.Na4 O-O 19.Nc5 Bc6 with equality. However, the pawn sacrifice brings more dynamic play.

18.Nxb5

Perhaps better was 18.Bc2!, against the ...f7-f5 break.

18...Qb6 19.Bc4 f5!

The key to opening the position also opens attacking chances for Black.

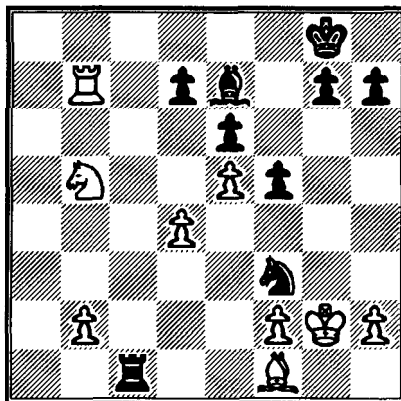
20.e5 Bxf3 21.gxf3 Nh4 22.Qc3 Qb7

Not 22...Rc8 because of 23.Bxe6+.

23.Be2 Rc8 24.Ra7?

White seeks a straightforward draw, but correct was 24.Qd3.

24...Rxc3 25.Rxb7 Rc1+ 26.Bf1 Nxf3+ 27.Kg2 Nh4+ 28.Kg1 Nf3+ 29.Kg2



At first sight White has assured her draw, but she overlooked what follows.

29...Bh4!! 30.Rxd7 Rc2?!

More spectacular was 30...Ne1+ 31.Kh3 Bxf2 with the idea of ...g7-g5-g4.

31.Kxf3 Rxf2+ 32.Ke3 Rxf1?

Black bypasses the important tempo-gainer 32...f4+! 33.Ke4 Rxf1, when the f-pawn quickly rushes to the coronation chamber.

33.Rc7?

Losing the one big chance to save the game, 33.Nc7 f4+ 34.Ke2! Rf2+ 35.Kd3 f3 36.Nxe6 Rg2 37.Rxg7+! (bad is 37.d5? because of 37...f2 38.Ke2 Rg1 39.Rxg7+ Kh8!! 40.Rf7 Re1+, winning) 37...Rxg7 38.Nxg7 Kxg7 39.Ke3 f2 40.Ke2 with a draw.

33...f4+ 34.Kd3?

Better was 34.Ke2, gaining a tempo.

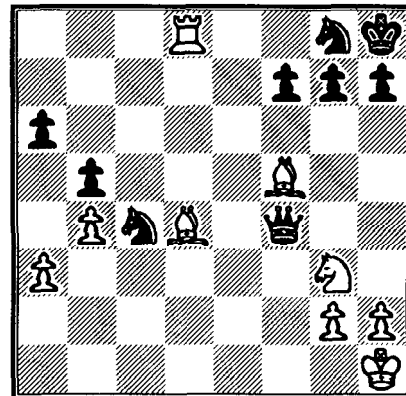
34...f3 35.Nd6 h5 36.Ne4 f2 37.Nxf2 Rxf2 38.b4 Rxh2 39.b5 Rb2 40.Rc5 Be7 41.Rc7 Kf7 0-1

Former world champion Maya

Chiburdanidze must hear the following position ringing out in her memory.

GM Nona Gaprindashvili  
GM Maya Chiburdanidze

Shanghai 1992



In the analysis of cold daylight, Black must win, but in the heat of battle, Black lost.

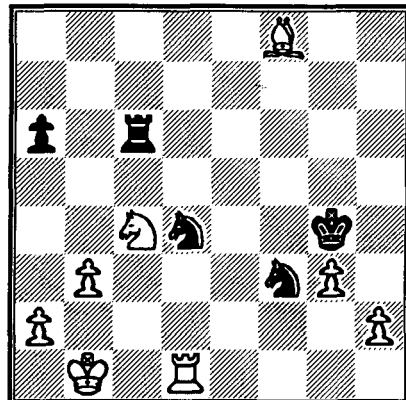
1...Nd6?? 2.Bxg7+ 1-0

There is no palliative for Black's pain: she wasn't even in time trouble.

Zsuzsa Polgar had won the tournament with three rounds remaining, but she almost lost her unbeaten record. In a losing position, Zsuzsa received the help of Lady Fortune and of Irina Levitina, who was embarrassed not to be able to win this game, and not only because she thereby lost the juicy prize offered by the organizers to whoever might defeat Zsuzsa Polgar.

WGM Irina Levitina  
GM Zsuzsa Polgar

Shanghai 1992



Black is to play, but no matter what she tries, she is objectively lost. Nonetheless, 23 moves later the two agreed to a draw. There is no doubt, luck favors champions.

# Inside News

# 3

## Short Reports from Around the World

### Pamplona, Spain

Lately GM **Joel Lautier** has been serving notice that he is among Caissa's elite. The 19-year-old Frenchman, who is the 14th-rated player in the world at 2645, turned in one of his most impressive performances to date in winning the **City of Pamplona** tournament. Lautier's undefeated score of 7-2 in the Category 13 (2569) event, held December 27 through January 5, put him two points ahead of the field. Top-rated (2685) Vladimir Kramnik of Russia disappointed his fans, winning only one game and finishing on 50 percent.

Other scores: 2. GM Illescas 5; 3-7. GMs Yudasin (RUS), Kramnik (RUS), and Sokolov (BIH) plus IMD. Garcia 4.5; 8. IM Magem 4; 9. IM De la Villa 3.5; 10. IM Romero 3.

SL 5.3 Slav D18

GM Vladimir Kramnik  
GM Joel Lautier

*Pamplona 1992/3*

1.d4 d5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.c4 c6 3.Nc3 dxc4 5.a4 Bf5 6.e3 e6 7.Bxc4 Bb4 8.O-O Nbd7 9.Nh4 Bg6 10.Be2 a5 11.Nxg6 hxg6 12.Qc2 Qc7 13.g3 e5 14.Rd1 Rd8 15.Bf3 O-O 16.Na2 Bd6 17.dxe5 Nxe5 18.Bg2 Be7 19.Bd2 Nd5 20.Qb3 Nb4 21.Nxb4 axb4 22.Be1 c5 23.Qc2 c4 24.Bd5 Rd7 25.Rac1 Rfd8 26.e4 Qa5 27.Rb1 Bf6 28.Kg2 b3 29.Qe2 Qxa4 30.Rbc1 Qa7 31.Bc3 b5 32.Bxe5 Bxe5 33.h4 Qc5 34.Rd2 Rxd5! 35.exd5 Rxd5 36.Rcd1 Rxd2 37.Rxd2 Qc6 + 38.Kh2 Bf6 39.h5 gxh5 40.Qxh5 b4 41.Rd5 g6 42.Qf3 Kg7 0-1

### Budapest, Hungary

GM **Andras Adorjan** won the 43rd **Hungarian Championship**, held December 8-20. The former Candidate scored an undefeated 7.5 from 11 in the Category

11 (2507) event. Tying for second at 6.5 were GMs Alexander Chernin, Jozsef Horvath and Ivan Farago plus 16-year-old IM Zoltan Almasi.

Other scores: 6-7. IMs Leko and C. Horvath 6; 8. IM Kallai 5; 9. GM Groszpeter 4.5; 10. IM P. Szekely 4; 11-12. GMs Csom and Tolnai 3.5.

KI 65.2 King's Indian Fianchetto E67

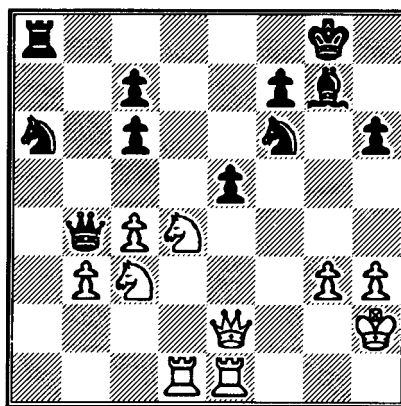
GM Andras Adorjan  
IM Zoltan Almasi

*Hungarian Championship 1992*

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 g6 3.c4 Bg7 4.g3 O-O 5.Bg2 d6 6.O-O Nbd7 7.Nc3 e5 8.h3 exd4 9.Nxd4 Re8 10.e4 Nc5 11.Re1 Bd7 12.Bf4!

Avoiding GM Yurtaev's hyper-aggressive treatment of ...Re8-e5-h5.

12...Qc8 13.Kh2 h6 14.Qc2 a5 15.Rad1 a4 16.Ndb5! Re6 17.b4 axb3 18.axb3 Na6 19.Qd2 g5 20.Be3 Qe8 21.e5! Rxe5 22.f4! gxf4 23.Bxf4 Bc6 24.Bxe5 dxe5 25.Qe2 Qe7 26.Bxc6 bxc6 27.Nd4 Qb4



28.Nxc6! Qxb3 29.Qg2 Re8 30.Nd5 Nxd5 31.Qxd5 e4 32.Rf1 Re6 33.Rxf7! 1-0

### Sydney, Australia

The **Shore Inn Australian Open Chess Championship**, held from December 28 to January 10, was won by native son GM **Ian Rogers**. His score of 10 from 11 put

him a point ahead of 13-year-old Hungarian IM Peter Leko. The young star generated terrific press publicity, including a front-page photo in the *Australian* — the first chess player to do that since 1972.

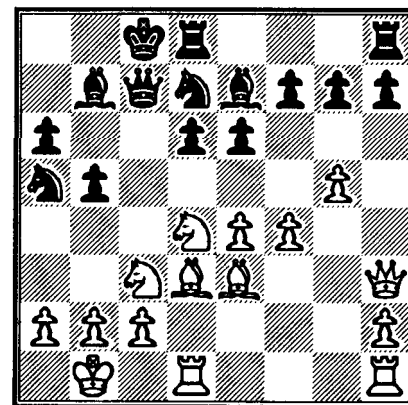
IM Guy West was third at 8.5 in the 164-player event. Tying for fourth through tenth at 8 were IM Gluzman, WGM Zsuzsa Veroci (HUN), Wohl, Hacche, Pickles, Drummond, and Belin.

SI 21.3 Sicilian Scheveningen B82

IM Peter Leko  
O. Raychman

*Sydney 1992/3*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e6 7.f4 Qc7 8.Qf3 Be7 9.g4 Nc6 10.g5 Nd7 11.O-O-O b5 12.Bd3 Bb7 13.Kb1 Na5 14.Qh3 O-O-O



15.Bxb5 axb5 16.Ndxb5 Qc4 17.b3 Nxb3 18.axb3 Qb4 19.Rd4 1-0

### New York, New York

The fifth semi-annual **Marshall Chess Club Masters Invitational** was won by 17-year-old **Alexander Kalikshteyn** of Brooklyn with a 4-1 score. The newcomer, who immigrated from Uzbekistan last July, is currently rated over 2500 USCF.

Other scores in the event, held January 15-18 and sponsored by the American



Chess Foundation, were: 2. Y. Arizmendi 3.5; 3. B. Kreiman 3; 4. D. Arnett 2.5; 5. Y. Kalinchenko 2; 6. M. Royzen 0.

*Courtesy of Leon Haft*

## Durango, Colorado

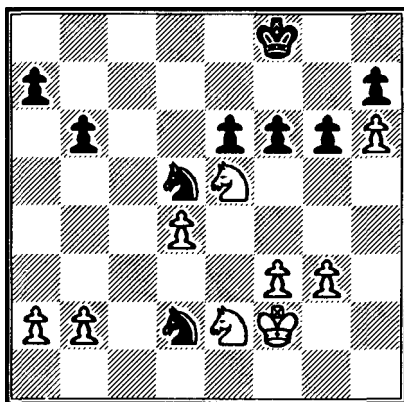
In Issue Number One we printed all the games from the 1993 U.S. Championship except the seemingly unobtainable Round Eight game between John Fedorowicz and Alexander Ivanov. With the help of the redoubtable Fed himself, we were finally able to track down the score.

*EO 48.1 English A30*

GM John Fedorowicz  
GM Alexander Ivanov

*US (ch) Durango (8) 1992*

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 b6 3.g3 c5 4.Bg2 Bb7  
5.O-O g6 7.d4 Bg7 8.e3 O-O 9.Nc3 Ne4  
10.Ne2 cxd4 10.exd4 d5 11.cxd5 Nf6  
12.Bg5 Nxd5 13.Qd2 Nc6 14.Bh6 e6  
15.Rfe1 Rc8 16.Rac1 Qd6 17.Bxg7 Kxg7  
18.h4 Na5 19.Ne5 Nf6 20.Bxb7 Nxb7  
21.Nf4 Rxc1 22.Rxc1 Rd8 23.Rd1 Nc5  
24.h5 Nce4 25.Qe3 Rc8 26.h6+ Kf8  
27.Ne2 Qb4 28.Rc1 Rxc1 29.Qxc1 Qd2  
30.Qxd2 Nxd2 31.f3 Nd5 32.Kf2 f6



33.Ke1 fxe5 34.Kxd2 exd4 35.Nxd4 Kf7  
36.Nc6 a6 37.Kd3 g5 38.Ne5+ Kf6  
39.Kd4 Ne7 40.g4 b5 41.Nd7+ Kg6  
42.Nb8 Kxh6 43.Nxa6 Nc6+ 44.Ke4 Kg6  
45.Nc7 b4 46.Nxe6 Kf6 47.Nd4 Ne5 48.b3  
Nd7 49.Nc6 Nc5+ 50.Kd4 1-0

## New Windsor, New York

The February 1993 USCF rating list contains the results of both domestic and international events played at time controls as fast as G/30. The USCF list is

similar to FIDE's rating list, but with some important differences. The ratings continue to rise! In 1990 all ratings over 2400 were reduced 25 percent of the amount over 2400, but now the ratings have risen to pre-reduction levels once again.

1. GM Gata Kamsky	
Brooklyn, New York .....	2752
2. GM Gregory Kaidanov	
Lexington, Kentucky .....	2725
3. GM Boris Gulko	
Fairlawn, New Jersey .....	2705
4. GM Patrick Wolff	
Cambridge, Massachusetts .....	2697
5. GM Alex Yermolinsky	
Highland Park, New Jersey .....	2696
6. GM Sergey Kudrin	
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania .....	2689
7. GM Larry Christiansen	
Porz, Germany .....	2685
8. GM Joel Benjamin	
New York, New York .....	2676
9. GM Maxim Dlugy	
Englewood, New Jersey .....	2671
10. GM Yasser Seirawan	
Seattle, Washington .....	2667
11. GM John Fedorowicz	
New York, New York .....	2655
12. GM Dmitry Gurevich	
Brooklyn, New York .....	2650
13. GM Alexander Ivanov	
Brookline, Massachusetts .....	2648
14. GM Roman Dzindzichashvili	
New York, New York .....	2630
15. GM Nick deFirmian	
San Francisco, California .....	2627
16. IM Alex Sherzer	
Fallston, Maryland .....	2624
17. IM Ilya Gurevich	
Worcester, Massachusetts .....	2621
18. GM Walter Browne	
Berkeley, California .....	2616
19. IM Gennady Sagalchik	
New York, New York .....	2611
20. GM Michael Rohde	
Westfield, New Jersey .....	2610
21. IM Georgi Orlov	
Seattle, Washington .....	2610
22. GM Alexander Shabalov	
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania .....	2605
23. IM Stuart Rachels	
Birmingham, Alabama .....	2601
24. GM Lev Alburt	
New York, New York .....	2595
25. IM Ben Finegold	
Southfield, Michigan .....	2590

## Lucerne, Switzerland

FIDE recently announced that the **Women's Candidates Final Match**, featuring Nana Ioseliani and Zsuzsa Polgar, will be held February 13-28 in Monaco. The prize fund for the eight-game match, held to determine the challenger for World Champion Xie Jun, is 150,000 Swiss Francs (\$120,000).

## Bethesda, Maryland

GM Alexander Shabalov tore through the 1992 Eastern Open with a score of 7.5/8, defeating GM Sergey Kudrin, IM Eugene Meyer and number of Senior Masters to claim a prize of almost \$1,800. IM Igor Ivanov, who was the only blemish on Shabalov's record with a fourth round draw, took clear second with 6.5 and won \$890.

Curt Jones finished with 6 points, taking clear third and \$415. Five players, Kudrin, GM Michael Rohde, IM Bruce Rind, FM Richard Delaune and SM Eugene Martinovsky ended with 5.5.

The tournament attracted 178 players between Christmas and New Year. The even was no as strong as in previous years (this year there were only three Grandmasters and three IMs, compared with 17 titled players last year, in part because it came only one week after the US Championship/Zonal).

Next year, the tournament will be a seven-round affair. Bill Goichberg and David Mehler organized and directed the tournament.

## USA/Linc

Richard Spitzer and Paul Azzurro were the first- and second-place finishers (ahead of several Masters) in the 1992 ChessBase USA/ChessMachine Challenge in which contestants played against the ChessMachine on the modem-based USA Today chess section, formerly called the Leisure Linc.

For compiling the highest scores against the ChessMachine, Spitzer and Azzurro both won their own ChessMachines and now presumably can continue to do battle with the mighty CMs minus the modem.

# Judit Polgar Catches Bareev at Hastings

by IM Colin Crouch

She's sixteen, she's beautiful, she's 2595, and she's just won Hastings, in a tie with Evgeny Bareev. A commercial sponsor could have made marvelous publicity out of this, but sadly, in reces-

In the middle of the table, Matthew Sadler was only two games away from reaching the Grandmaster title, but he missed his chance when, in Round 13, he failed to convert a winning Rook-and-pawn ending against Judit. Ilya Gurevich started atrociously, but recovered well

## ● HASTINGS 1993 ●

Category 13 (2565)

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
1. GM J. Polgar	HUN	2595	xx	11	0½	½0	1½	1½	10	11	9.0
2. GM E. Bareev	RUS	2670	00	xx	11	10	½½	1½	1½	11	9.0
3. GM J. Speelman	ENG	2595	1½	00	xx	½½	½½	1½	½1	1½	8.0
4. GM J. Nunn	ENG	2580	½1	01	½½	xx	½0	00	1½	½1	7.0
5. IM M. Sadler	ENG	2540	0½	½½	½½	½1	xx	½1	½½	½0	7.0
6. IM I. Gurevich	USA	2515	0½	0½	0½	11	½0	xx	½1	½1	7.0
7. GM L. Polugaevsky	RUS	2635	01	0½	½0	0½	½½	½0	xx	1½	5.5
8. IM C. Crouch	ENG	2415	00	00	0½	½0	½1	½0	0½	xx	3.5

sion-hit Britain such sponsors are rare; this year the local council was the sole sponsor of the congress.

The tournament crosstable reveals a lot, but also conceals a lot. Judit Polgar was heavily favored by the all-important "luckometer," winning two lost positions against the author of this report, and benefiting from Polugaevsky's blunder of a piece while he pressed an endgame advantage. To have beaten Bareev twice is very impressive, however.

At the bottom of the table, my own score was wrecked by a series of tactical miscalculations. With better visualization I could have doubled my score. In my first strong tournament, perhaps inexperience showed. I definitely felt that my game had reached a state of creative crisis; if I can overcome my tactical weaknesses and improve my opening play with the Black pieces, the Grandmaster title is achievable. Otherwise, I will be struggling in the lower 2400s indefinitely. Lev Polugaevsky, in his first visit to Hastings, also suffered badly from oversights in good positions and could easily have finished in the top half.

and, in fact, "won" the second cycle of the tournament. His second win against John Nunn was a real time trouble cheapo which stopped John's winning streak. Jon Speelman was always somewhere in touch with the lead, but never quite made up the gap.

The first round, after the photo-calls and other formalities, was very nervously played. My game against Judit was thoroughly mediocre with blunders on both sides, and not it not quite a lot of press coverage because of the "Girl Wonder" factor. Had I been an angry loser, this would definitely have been reported! Sadler and Bareev had a long and nervous draw, while Polugaevsky and Gurevich went down quickly to Nunn and Speelman.

SI 19.1 Sicilian Najdorf B80

GM John Nunn  
GM Lev Polugaevsky

Hastings (1) 1992/3

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 e6 7.f3 b5 8.g4 h6 9.Qd2

Nbd7 10.O-O-O Bb7 11.h4 b4 12.Nce2 d5 13.Ng3 Qa5 14.Kb1 dxe4

Arnason-H. Olafsson, Reykjavik 1992, continued 15.g5 hxg5 16.hxg5 Rxh1 17.Nxh1 Nd5 18.g6! O-O-O! and was later drawn. Nunn tries something new.

15.Nxe4!? Nxe4?

It is tempting to fix an isolated pawn on e4, but White, better developed, has too many tactical resources. 15...Nd5!, keeping a central presence, must be critical.

16.fxe4 Nf6

16...Bxe4 17.Nxe6 Ne5 18.Bg2 fxe6 19.Bxe4 Rd8 20.Qg2 is unpleasant for Black.

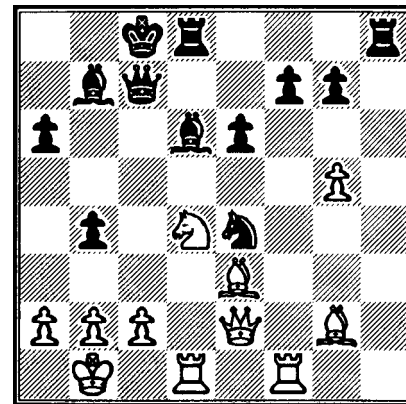
17.Bg2 O-O-O 18.Qe2! Qc7

Black's King is too open for 18...Nxe4 19.Nxe6! fxe6 20.Bxe4.

19.Rhf1 Bd6

This time if 19...Nxe4 20.Bxe4 Bxe4 21.Bf4 wins.

20.g5! hxg5 21.hxg5 Nxe4



22.g6!

In much more favorable circumstances than in the Arnason-Olafsson game. Black is now positionally lost; the pressure on the light squares is intolerable.

22...Rh2 23.Rxf7 Rxf7 24.Rxc7 + Bxc7 25.Qc4 Rxf7 26.Rf1 e5 27.Ne6 Rxe6 28.Qxe6 + Kb8 29.Qe7 a5 30.Rf8 1-0

Nobody reached 2/2. Polgar and Nunn had a steady draw and Speelman had a most fortunate draw with Polugaevsky. Bareev joined the leaders by overrunning Gurevich's back rank, while I made perhaps the most controversial opening in-

novation of the tournament against Sadler.

*BI 37.5 King's Indian Samisch A65*

IM Matthew Sadler

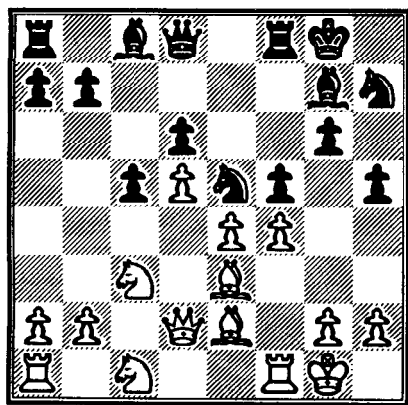
IM Colin Crouch

*Hastings (2) 1992/3*

1.d4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.c4 c5 4.d5 d6 5.Nc3 Nf6 6.f3 O-O 7.Bg5 h6 8.Be3 e6 9.Qd2 exd5 10.cxd5 h5 11.Nge2 Nbd7 12.Nc1

A long fortnight later, Sadler tried against Pogor's 11...Re8. The position turned out well for him after 12...Nbd7 13.Be2 Ne5 14.O-O a6 15.b3 b5 16.Rac1 h4 17.Nd1 Bd7 18.Nf2 a5 19.N4h3 c4 20.bxc4 Nxc4 21.Bxc4 bxc4 22.Bd4, but there is scope for further testing in this line: in other words, I am keeping discreetly quiet!

12...Ne5 13.Be2 Nh7 14.O-O f5 15.f4



Now if 15...Nf7 16.e5! dxe5 17.Bxc5 Re8 18.Nd3 e4 19.Ne1 Nf6 20.Nc2 Bd7 21.h3 Qc7 22.Qe3 and White is starting to take control, Yusupov-Dolmatov, 8th match game, 1991. My instincts led me elsewhere.

15...Nd7!

The natural move. Black drops a couple of pawns, but gains masses of Benoni-type play along the weakened e- and b-files, the heavy pieces being ably assisted by the light pieces. In the meantime, all White's pieces are badly coordinated. Despite this, the general opinion among spectators, commentators and even the other players was that I had blundered two pawns for nothing. Doesn't anyone play the Benoni in this country?

16.exf5 gxf5 17.Bxh5 b5! 18.Nxb5 Nh6 19.Bf3

As 19.Be2 Ne4 is dangerous.

19...Nb6 20.Ne2!

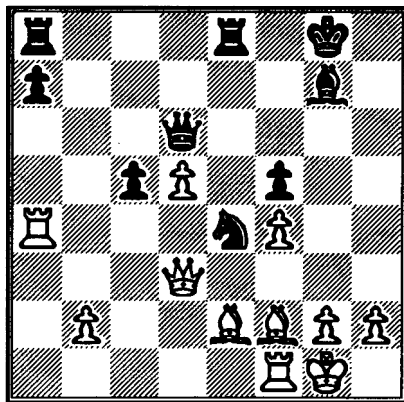
A good defensive move, getting his

pieces working together and ensuring that Black will not be able to carry out his plan to win the d-pawn, control the a-file, take over on e4 and steamroller on the queenside.

20...Ba6 21.a4 Re8 22.Bf2 Nxa4 23.Nxd6 Qxd6 24.Rxa4 Bxe2 25.Bxe2 Ne4

Even though things have not gone according to plan, Black still has this square!

26.Qd3



Much more, so 26.Q 2 could probably be met by ...Qx4. On the other hand, White plans to meet ...N 27.Rxf2 Bd4 with 28.Rxd4 cxd4 29.Qxf5 and the Black King is exposed.

26...Rab8 27.Ra6!

27.Rxa7?! Rxb2 gives Black good chances.

27...Qxf4 28.Rg6

28.Bxc5 is best met by 28...Qh4. White seems to be able to slip out of the attack after 29.g3 Qh3 30.b4 Nxc5 31.bxc5 Rb2 32.Rf2 Rxe2 33.Rxe2 Bd4+ 34.Qxd4 Rb1+ 35.Kf2 Qxh2+ 36.Kf3, but simply 29...Nxc5 30.gxh4 Nxd3 31.Bxd3 Rxb2 should hold: White's King is as exposed as Black's.

28...Nxf2 29.Rxf2 Qd4! 30.Qxf5

After 30.Qxd4 cxd4 Black has the more dangerous passed pawn.

30...Rf8

30...Rxe2? 31.Rxg7+!

31.Qe6+ Kh7 32.Bf3??

The game has been creatively, and perhaps correctly, played so far, but now both players get the yips in time trouble. The game should have finished 32.Qh3+ Kg8 33.Qe6+, draw. Instead White, setting a cheapo (32...Rxb2?? 33.Rh6+), blunders.

32...Rxf3??

The first move to get an exclamation mark in the bulletin, and a bad mistake. 32...Rbe8! wins, since after 33.Qh3+

Kxg6 34.Qh5+ Black can flee to f6.

33.Rxg7+ Kxg7 34.Qe7+??

34.gxf3 Rxb2 35.Qg4+.

34...Kg6?

34...Kh8! 35.gxf3 Rg8+ 36.Kf1 Qd1+ 37.Qe1 Rg1+, as all the spectators saw.

35.Qd6+? Rf6 36.Qg3+ Kf7 37.Qc7+ Kg6 38.Qg3+ Draw??

Somehow not registering that 38...Kh7 wins easily. In time trouble I don't think it had struck me that the White Rook was pinned.

My confidence in my ability to calculate was very low by this point, and when I tried to keep the position fairly simple against Bareev, I got flattened. Speelman joined Bareev in the lead by beating Polgar after the latter, with perhaps an advantage as Black in the King's Indian, went for material and exposed her King. The tournament's star attraction was, so far, unconvincing and could easily have had only a half point. John Nunn added a new paragraph on Sicilian theory.

*SI 14.7 Sicilian Najdorf B90*

GM John Nunn

IM Matthew Sadler

*Hastings (3) 1992/3*

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be3 Ng4!? 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 g5

This is starting to look like quite a good equalizing line. Polgar-Polugaevsky from Round 12 merely confirmed Rashkovsky's impression (*Informant* 54/240) that Black is doing well after 9.Be2 Bg7 10.Bg3 h5 11.h4 Nc6 12.Nb3 gxh4 13.Bxh4 Be6 14.Qd2 Qb6 15.Nd5 Bxd5 16.cxd5 Nce5. Play continued 17.Qa5 Qxa5+ 18.Nxa5 Ng6 19.c3 Nf4 20.Bg3 Nxe2 21.Kxe2 Re8 22.Rad1 Kd7 and Black later won the endgame. Nunn tries something else.

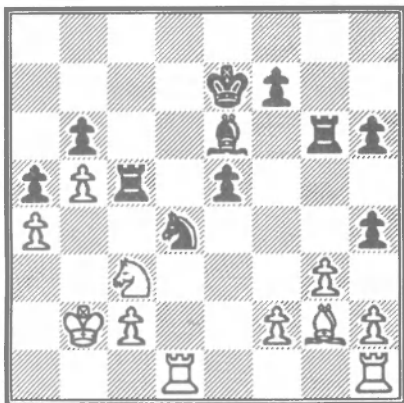
9.Nf5!? e6 10.Qxg4 exf5 11.exf5 gxh4 12.Qd4

12.Bc4!? (bulletin) has a distinctly speculative appearance, but may give chances as 12...Qg5 can be met by 13.Qe2+ (13...Qe7 14.Ne4; 13...Kd8 14.Bxf7).

12...Rg8 13.Ne4

Black has no problems after this. 13.Nd5 will leave White slightly ahead in material, but the initiative will be firmly in Black's hands after 13...Bg7 14.f6 Bh8 15.Qb6 Bxf6! 16.Nc7+ Kf8 17.Nxa8 Qe7+, or 14.Qb6 Qxb6 15.Nxb6 Bxf5

16.Nxa8 Bxb2 17.Rb1 Bc3+ 18.Kd1 Be4.  
13...Be7 14.f6 Qa5+ 15.b4 Qe5  
16.Qxe5 dxe5 17.fxe7 Kxe7 18.O-O-O Nc6  
19.a3 Rg6 20.Nc3 Be6 21.g3 a5 22.b5 Nd4  
23.Bg2 Rc8 24.Kb2 Rc5 25.a4 b6?!



In fact, Black is by now much better, but here he plays too passively. 25...Rg8 looks strong: the amusing tactical trick 26. Bxb7? Rb8 27.Ba6? Rc6! wins a piece. Instead 26.Rhe1 Rgc8 27.Re3 Rc4 28.Bxb7 R8c5 29.f4 exf4 30.gxf4 Kf8 puts White under considerable pressure.

26.Rhe1 f6 27.Re3 Rg8 28.Rd2 Rgc8 29.f4 Rc4 30.fxe5 fxe5 31.gxh4 Draw

In a fairly quiet round Sadler-Speelman and Crouch-Nunn quickly reached level endgames. Polgar got an edge against Gurevich's Sicilian and converted it. Bareev registered on the luckometer when Polugaevsky, in time trouble but with a much better position, played a "winning" combination which in fact lost.

#### NI 24.1 Nimzo-Indian E32

GM Evgeny Bareev  
GM Lev Polugaevsky

*Hastings (4) 1992/3*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 O-O 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.Qxc3 b6 7.Bg5 h6 8.Bh4 c5 9.dxc5 bxc5 10.e3 d6 11.Bd3 Nbd7 12.Ne2 Bb7 13.O-O Ne5 14.Bb1 Ng6 15.Bg3 e5 16.b4 Qc7 17.f3 Nd7 18.Bd3 Ne7 19.Bh4 Rfe8 20.Rfc1 e4! 21.fxe4 Ng6 22.Bg3 Nf6 23.Rd1 Rad8 24.Nf4 Nxf4 25.Bxf4 Nxe4 26.Qe1 Re6

The game so far is an excellent illustration of why immediate castling is probably soon going to knock the 4.Qc2 system right out of fashion. Black, by not committing himself for a move, can achieve a satisfactory development and central pawn formation with no trouble whatsoever. And now he has an outpost on e4



Photo by: W.P.W.

Judit

and a definite weakness on g2 to attack.

27.Ra2 Rde8 28.h3 Ba8 29.Bxe4 Bxe4 30.bxc5 Qxc5 31.Qb4 Qc6!

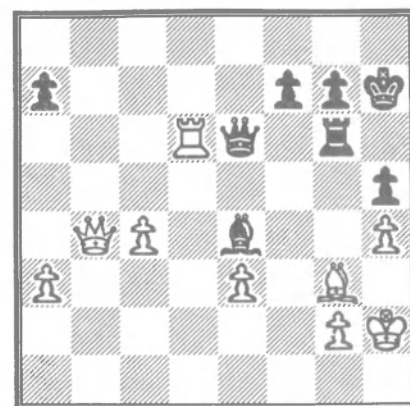
Not minding the loss of a pawn. The initiative is more important here.

32.Rxd6 Rxd6 33.Bxd6 Re6 34.Bg3 Rg6 35.Kh2 h5 36.h4 Qe6?

Maybe already thinking of his combination, yet this move throws away most of his advantage. 36...Rg4! would have been really nasty, leaving White to cope with all sorts of unpleasant attacking plans such as ...g5, or bringing the Queen round the back, or even an Exchange sacrifice on g3 or h4. I would expect White's position to crack at some stage; with opposite color Bishops plus Queens and Rooks, a weak King position is generally fatal, since the attacking minor

piece fires at squares which its counterpart cannot possibly cover.

37.Rd2 Kh7 38.Rd6



38...Qg4 39.Rxg6 Qe2??

39...fxg6 is still comfortably equal.

40.Rxg7+! Kxg7 41.Be5+ Kh7



42.Qb2!

Ouch! The rest is easy.

42...Qe1 43.Bg3 Qf1 44.c5 Bc6  
45.Qc2+ Kg8 46.e4 Qf6 47.Qd1 Qe6  
48.Qxh5 Qxe4 49.Qg5+ Kh7 50.Be5 Qg6  
51.Qxg6+ fxg6 52.g4 Kg8 53.h5 gxh5  
54.gxh5 Bf3 55.h6 Be4 56.Kg3 Kf7 57.Kf4  
Bh7 58.c6 K 6 59. ~ 1-0

Polugaevsky again lost through a blunder a position he looked set to win, this time against Polgar. I had a similar misfortune against Speelman, soon gaining an edge as Black, then miscalculating a piece sacrifice. Sadler and Gurevich drew quickly, while Bareev kept his lead by putting some sort of sleeping potion in Nunn's position.

KP 3.2 Four Knights Game C48

GM John Nunn  
GM Evgeny Bareev

Hastings (5) 1992/3

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nf6 3.Nc3 Nc6 4.Bb5 Nd4  
5.Ba4 c6 6.d3 b5 7.Bb3 Nxb3 8.axb3 d6  
9.O-O Be7

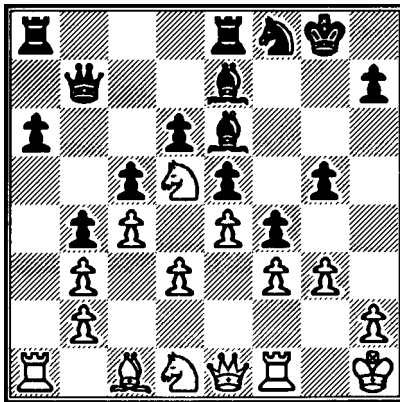
Simple chess to reach an equal position. Over the next dozen moves or so Nunn faces a dilemma: should he aim at activity and thereby risk opening up the position for Black's Bishop pair? Or should he keep the position closed, thereby handing the initiative to Black? He never really solves this problem and Bareev takes control. Perhaps at some stage White could try for f4.

10.Ne2 O-O 11.Ng3 c5 12.e4 Qc7  
13.Ne1 Bg4 14.f3 Be6 15.Nc2 Nd7 16.Kh1

Rfe8 17.Ne2 Qb7 18.Nc3 a6 19.Qe1?!

This move is strange; isn't White interested in stopping ...f5? The natural plan would be 19.Ne3 followed, perhaps, by Ncd5 and a timely f4.

19...f5 20.Ne3 f4 21.Ned5 b4 22.Nd1 Nf8  
23.g3 g5



Now Black has a nice space advantage which he gradually builds on until a frustrated John Nunn lashes out just before time control.

24.Nf2 Bd8 25.Rg1 Ng6 26.Bd2 a5  
27.Qe2 Ra7 28.Ng4 Qg7 29.Raf1 Kh8  
30.Qg2 h5 31.Nf2 Rg8 32.h4? fxg3  
33.Qxg3 Nxh4 34.Bxg5 Bxg5 35.Qxg5  
Nxf3 36.Qxg7+ Raxg7 37.Rxg7 Rxg7  
38.Nd1 Bh3 39.Rf2 Nd4 0-1

The next day Bareev notched his fifth successive win by putting Speelman's pawn center to sleep, while Polgar kept in touch by refuting Sadler's wildly optimistic sacrificial attack. Polugaevsky at last managed to convert an advantage, your reporter being the victim, while Gurevich

got moving by bashing Nunn's kingside.

RL 17.2 Ruy Lopez C88

IM Ilya Gurevich  
GM John Nunn

Hastings (6) 1992/3

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nf6  
5.O-O Be7 6.Re1 b5 7.Bb3 O-O 8.d4 Nxd4  
9.Nxd4 exd4 10.e5 Ne8 11.c3 dxc3 12.Nxc3  
d6 13.Nd5 Be6 14.Qf3 Rc8 15.Bf4 Bg5  
16.Rad1 Kh8 17.Bc2 f5 18.Qh5 h6  
19.Bxg5 Qxg5 20.Qxg5 hxg5 21.Ne7 Kh7  
22.exd6 cxd6 23.Nxc8 Bxc8 24.Re7 g4  
25.Bb3 Kg6 26.Rc1 Nf6 27.Rcc7 d5  
28.Rxg7+ Kh6 29.Rgf7 Re8 30.Rce7 1-0

Judit scored the only win of the round, her fourth in a row, beating Bareev. At the halfway stage these two led with 5 1/2.

KI 26.1 King's Indian Averbakh E73

GM Evgeny Bareev  
GM Judit Polgar

Hastings (7) 1992/3

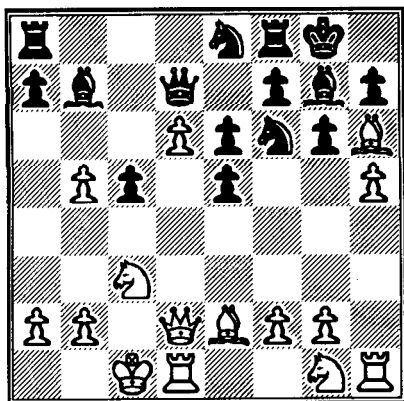
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6  
5.Be2 O-O 6.Bg5 Na6 7.h4 c5 8.d5 Nc7  
9.Qd2 e6 10.e5?!

This home-grown system probably cost Evgeny the tournament! He later lost a second game with it to John Nunn. The position is sharp, but White has neither the development nor the central control to justify sacrificing a central pawn to create a lone passed pawn.

10...dxe5 11.d6 Nce8 12.O-O-O  
Against Nunn he tried 12.Rd1.

12...Qd7 13.h5 b5! 14.cxb5 Bb7 15.Bh6

Black is already better. The notes in the bulletin, which were generally rather haphazard, suggested a White edge with 15.Nf3, but after 15...Nd5! 16.Nxd5 (what else?) 16...exd5 17.Be7 Nxd6 18.Bxf8 Rxf8 Black has a terrific position.



15...Qxd6!

A commendably practical decision. Judit removes the passed pawn, forces some simplification, yet accepts that White will still have active play for the pawn for some time. Still, it is to the analysts to decide whether 15...Bxg2 16.Rh2 Bd5 is the refutation of the White attack, or something extremely risky. The idea looks promising at first, but after 17.Bxg7 Kxg7 18.Nf3! Black has problems, for example, 18...Ng4 19.Rh4 Nef6 20.Rg1 Qxd6 21.Ng5 or 18...Nxb5 19.Rxb5 gxf5 20.Nxe5 Qxd6 21.Qg5 + Kh8 22.Rg1 and Nxf7+ is a winning threat.

16.Qg5 Bxh6 17.Qxh6 Qe7 18.Qg5 Ng7 19.Bf3 e4 20.Nxe4 Bxe4 21.Bxe4 h6! 22.Qe3 Nxe4 23.Qxe4 g5?!

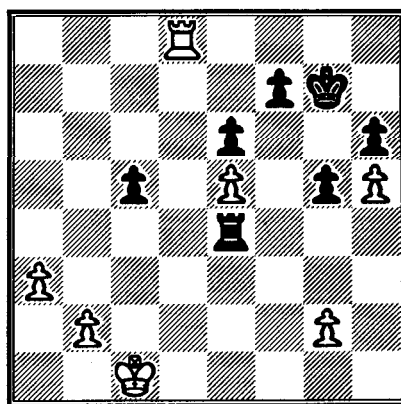
Black has done well taking the sting out of the attack, but this is overcautious and allows White to claim some sort of edge. Black looks good after 23...Nxb5 24.Nf3 Qf6 25.g4 Nf4 (25...Qf4 + 26.Qxf4 Nxf4 27.Rxb6 Nh5 28.Ng5! is far less clear) 26.Rxb6 Rad8!; White's King, with rather less pawn cover, is more exposed than

Black's. If now 27.Rxd8 Rxd8 28.g5 Nd3 + 29.Qxd3 Rxd3 30.gxf6 Rxf3 and Black has a massive kingside pawn majority in the endgame; or 27.g5 Rxd1 + 28.Kxd1 Rd8 +! 29.Kc2 Qf5 30.Qxf5 exf5 and Black, having the possibilities of ...Nh5 or ...Nd3, is better placed for the ...d4-g4 on this attack. ...g4 is an enterprising 28...Qxb2 only draws: 29.Qxf4 Rd8 + 30.Nd2 c4 31.Ke2! (ensuring that later ...d4-c3 nor ...c4-c3 will be check) 31...c3 32.Rh8 +! Kxh8 33.Qf6 + Ng8 ...Qxu8 + Kh7 35.Qd4 c2 36.Qd7 Kg8 etc.

24.Ne2 a6 25.bxa6 Rxa6 26.a3 Qf6 27.f4 Rb8 28.Qe5 Qxe5 29.fxe5 Ra4 30.Nc3 Rg4 31.Rd2 Nf5 32.Re1 Ng3 33.Red1

White's kingside pawns are, of course, very weak, but his outside passed pawn is highly dangerous; Black has no time to take ...e7-e5 suc as ...x ... 34.Rd8 + Rxd8 35.Rxd8 + Kg7 36.a4 Rxd8? (36...Rb4 lasts longer) 37.a5 Rg1 + 38.Rd1! Rg4 39.a6 Rb4 40.a7.

33...Kg7 34.Rd8 Rxd8 35.Rxd8 Ne4! 36.Nxe4 Rxe4



Around here I wandered downhill to watch the time scrambles in the Challengers. Klara and Zsafia Polgar asked me how Judit was doing. I told them I thought she was in trouble. Later we all returned to the hotel and Judit was ecstatic. Her facetoldtheresult. Had I really given her family such unreliable information? Or had Bareev blown it?

After an evening of hard study, I feel I can stick to my story, Judit was indeed in trouble. The diagram position is

very finely balanced—one inaccurate move and the weakness of White's kingside pawns outweighs the strength of his valuable a-pawn. What would you play here, dear reader?

37.Rd3?

This is not the move; it is a tempo too slow. The key to the position is the ...a6 between the passed a-pawn, supported from behind by the White Rook, and the ...b7. If Black's King ...a6 ...a6 the a-pawn, Black is probably winning. If, however, the Rook is forced into passivity on ...a8 and White's King ...a6 ...a6 up, then White is winning. The obvious plan is 37.Kc2, when after 37...Rxe5 White wins the pawn race with reasonable care, e.g., 38.a4 Re2 + 39.Rd2 Re4 40.b3 Rb4 41.Kc3 Kf8 42.a5 Ke7 43.a6 Rb8 44.Kc4 Rb4 + 45.Kxc5 Rxb3 46.Ra2 Rc3 + 47.Kb4 Rc8 48.a7 Ra8 49.Kc5 and Black's counterplay on the kingside is far too slow. Therefore, Black's first movement gives Black big counterplay, e.g., 39.b3 Rxe5 40.a4 Re2 41.Kc4 (41.Ra1 Kd6) 41...Rxe2 and the Black pawns are going to ...e4!

Bareev wants to make sure he can protect his e5-pawn when the Black King reaches e7, but he goes about it the wrong way. 37.Kd2!! is the move, meeting 37...Rxe5 with 38.a4 and an eventual queenside win.

I don't know whether White is winning this position, and I don't intend to analyze it in depth. I feel, however, that it is in practice very promising. Quite possibly as soon as Black has eliminated the outside passed a-pawn, she will have to deal with another one on the h-file, maybe with her King stuck on a5. At any rate, 37.Kd2!! is much better than 37.Rd3?

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37...Kf8 38.Kd2 Ke7 39.Re3 Rh4 40.Ke2

This looks unduly passive, but even after the more thematic 40.Kc3 Kd7 41.Rf3 Kc6! 42.Rxf7 Kd5 Black is clearly better.

40...Kd7 41.Rh3?

A blunder, but it's probably lost anyway. After 41.Rf3 Kc6 White will start dropping kingside pawns.

41...Rxb3 42.gxh3 Kc6 43.a4 Kd5! 44.a5 Kc6 45.Kd3 Kb5 46.b3 Kxa5 47.Kc4 Kb6 48.Kd3 Kc7 49.Kc3 Kb7 0-1

50.Kd3 Kb6 etc. Despite its mistakes, this was the game of the tournament, an absorbing Grandmaster struggle.

Judit made it five in a row, at my expense. Since all the other games were drawn, this made her the clear leader. I was beginning to wonder what I had to do to win a game; she had made a blunder look like a dazzling sacrifice. I don't think it was that distinguished a game, but the crowd loved it, and so I suppose I must publish it.

#### KF 5.1 Modern Defense B06

GM Judit Polgar  
IM Colin Crouch

Hastings (8) 1992/3

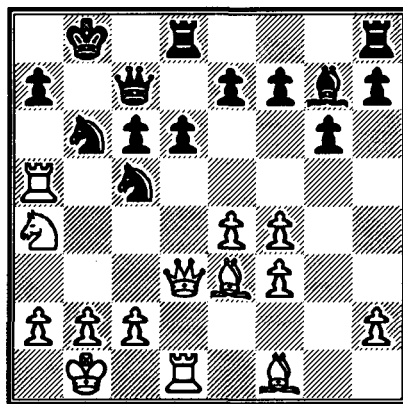
1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.f4 c6 5.Nf3 Bg4 6.Be3 Qb6 7.Qd2 Bxf3 8.gxf3 Nd7 9.O-O-O Qa5 10.Kb1 O-O-O?!

Not an experiment I am likely to repeat. I was trying to get the King well out of the center before starting active play, but the usual 10...b5 looks better.

11.Rg1! Kb8 12.Rg5 Qc7 13.d5 Nb6 14.dxc6 bxc6 15.Qd3?!

15.a4! Nf6 16.a5 Nc8 17.Na2!, heading for b4, is very promising.

15...Nf6 16.Ra5 Nfd7 17.Na4?? Nc5!



Now Black should be heading for victory. Both 18.Nxc5 dxc5 19.Qe2 Rxd1 + 20.Qxd1 Nc4 and 18.Bxc5 dxc5 19.Qe2 Rxd1 + Qxd1 Rd8 21.Qe1 Qxf4 concede Black massive positional advantages. So Judit dusts herself off, sacs the Exchange and hopes for the best.

18.Qa3! Ncxa4 19.Rxa4 Nxa4 20.Qxa4 Ka8 21.Bc4 Rb8?

Tactically careless, and enough to make the position unclear again. The correct move is 21...e6! and if 22.Rd3 Rb8!, both 23.Bxa7 and 23.Ra3 are harmless after 23...Rxb2 +.

22.b3! Bc3

As 22...e6? is met by 23.Rxd6, Black must find other ways to untangle.

23.Bxf7 Ba5 24.f5 gxf5 25.exf5 Rb4 26.Qa3 Rh4?

Poetic justice. White gets her Rook trapped after Rg5-a5, Black gets his trapped after ...Rb4-h4.

27.Qb2 Rb8 28.c4!

Suddenly I saw that Bg5 is a winning

threat. Black's position is gone.

28...d5 29.cxd5 Rxb2 30.Qc1 Qe5 31.Be6 Bc3 32.Bf4 Rxa2 33.Bxe5 Ra1 + 34.Kc2 Rxc1 + 35.Kxc1 Bxe5 36.dxc6 Re8 37.Rd7 h5 38.Bd5 1-0

Round Eight finished with a slight whiff of controversy. This year, after the first 60 moves, each player was given an extra hour to finish off the game. This is good, since it removes the need for adjournments, but it also needs the presence of a very senior arbiter, which does not always happen. Polugaevsky was material up against Nunn, but on a mild defensive. He offered a draw. Nunn wanted to try a final trap or two and declined. Polugaevsky was annoyed. All very understandable, but the real question was, where was Stewart Reuben? As Tournament Director, there was no excuse for him not being there at the crucial stage.

At the beginning of the next round he was again the invisible man. After five minutes of waiting, the players started their own clocks, to the audience's amusement. One of the tournament officials later told me that Mr. Reuben had "forgotten," which seems strange, as less than an hour before the start of the round he was seen sitting in the hotel bar, making banal remarks about 19th century chess. Mr. Reuben is never slow in criticizing other tournament organizers for alleged inefficiency; it is only fair that his own performance should come under the spotlight occasionally.

When play finally got started, Polgar crashed against Nunn in a Sicilian. Bareev was expected to regain the lead, as he

## CHESS SCENE by David Middleton



built up a strong position against Gurevich, but somehow the American held on. Thus Polgar and Bareev both had 6.5/9, with Speelman half a point behind as he blockaded, then destroyed, Polugaevsky's pawn center.

SI 41.1 Sicilian B40

GM John Nunn  
GM Judit Polgar

Hastings (9) 1992/3

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Q

She has experimented with this a few times. 5.Nb5 a6 6.Be3 Qd8 7.Nd6 + is perhaps worth a try.

5.Nb3 Qc7

Now the White Knight is off-center, and Black can do without ...a6.

6.c4 Nf6 7.Nc3 Bb4 8.Bd2 Nc6 9.Nb5 Qf4 10.Bxb4 Nxb4 11.f3 b6 12.Be2 a6?!

Overplaying it. Black looks fine and Judit suggested 12...a5 as an improvement. I naively wondered whether simply 12...O-O is the move.

13.g3 Qe5 14.f4 Qxb2 15.Nd6 +

15.Nc7 + ?? Kd8 16.Nxa8 Nc2 + 17.Kf2 Nxe4 + 18.Kf3 Bb7 gives Black a winning attack.

15...Ke7 16.O-O Nxa2 17.Rxa2 Qxa2 18.e5 Qa3

A despondent reply, since 18...Ne8 19.f5! gives a crushing attack, e.g., 19...Qa3 20.Nxf7 Kxf7 21.fxe6 +; or 19...Rf8 20.Bf3 Rb8 21.Nxe8 Kxe8 22.Qd6 and 23.f6; or 19...f6 20.fxe6 dxe6 21.Bf3 Rb8 22.Nxe8 Kxe8 23.Qd6.

19.exf6 + gxf6 20.c5 Qa4 21.Nc4 Bb7 22.Nxb6 Qe4 23.Bf3 Qe3 + 24.Kg2 Be4 25.Qd6 + Ke8 26.Nxd7 Qe2 + 27.Kg1 Qe3 + 28.Rf2 1-0

**B**areev nudged ahead again after I prematurely broke in the center in an unclear middlegame position. Polgar and Speelman drew quickly. Polugaevsky had another time trouble disaster, this time against Gurevich, while Sadler got his first win of the tournament with great ease.

KI 51.4 King's Indian Samisch E81

IM Matthew Sadler  
GM John Nunn

Hastings (10) 1992/3

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.f3 O-O 6.Bg5 Nc6 7.Nge2 a6 8.Qd2 Bd7?!

A slight error leading to a catastrophe. Better is 8...Rb8 and if White plays as in the game, Black will have immediate counterplay along the b-file.

9.h4 h5 10.O-O-O b5 11.Bh6

This position was reached in M'les-Jadoul, Brussels 1986, with White playing 11.Be3-h6 instead of 11.Bg5-h6. Play continued 11...Kh7 12.Bg5 bxc4 13.g4 and White won by a kingside attack. Perhaps Jadoul could have tried 12...Kg8!?, since 13.g4 is less effective with the King off the h-file.

11...e5?! 12.Nd5 Bxh6

Or 12...exd4 13.Nxd4 and White has a clear positional advantage, e.g., 13...Nxd4 14.Bxg7 Kxg7 15.Qxd4 or 13...Nxd5 14.

Bxg7 Kxg7 15.cxd5 or 13...Bxh6 14.Qxh6 or 13...Ne5? 14.Nxf6 + Qxf6?? 15.Bg5.

13.Qxh6 bxc4 14.g4 Nxd5 15.exd5 Nb4 15...Nxd4 16.Nxd4 exd4 17.Bxc4! gives Black problems.

16.Ng3 c3 17.Nxh5! gxh5 18.gxh5 Bg4 19.Rg1 f5 20.fxg4 f4 21.bxc3 Nxa2 + 22.Kc2 Qxh4 23.Qg6 + Kh8 24.Bd3 Qe7 25.Qh6 + Kg8 26.Qe6 + 1-0

**N**o change at the top, three out of four games were drawn. In the other game a new opening system got consigned to the footnotes.

KF 5.1 Modern Defense B06

GM John Nunn  
IM Colin Crouch

Hastings (11) 1992/3

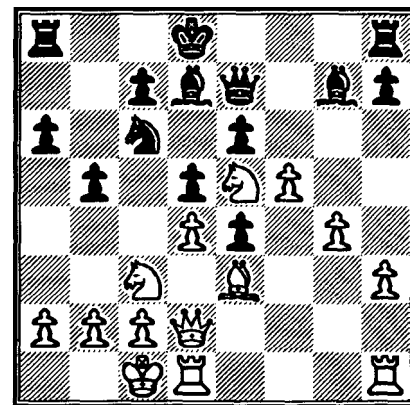
1.e4 g6 2.d4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Be3 Nh6?! 5.f3 f5 6.Qd2 Nf7 7.O-O-O Nc6 8.exf5 gxf5 9.f4!

And that's it! A double Stonewall with a time advantage to White. I gave up the French to avoid this type of position!

9...d5 10.Nf3 e6 11.h3 Nd6 12.Ne5 Bd7 13.Be2 Qe7 14.Bh5 + Kd8 15.Be2 a6?!

Unravelling with 15...Kc8 and ...Nd8 is better. It is difficult for White to break through, but he unquestionably has the edge.

16.g4 b5?! 17.Bd3! Ne4 18.Bxe4 fxe4 19.f5!



Positionally decisive. If 19...Nxe5 20.dxe5 Bxe5 21.Nxe4 dxe4 22.Bg5.

19...Kc8 20.Bg5 Bf6 21.Bxf6 Qxf6 22.g5 Qe7 23.f6 Qf8 24.h4 Rg8 25.Nxd7 Kxd7 26.Nxe4 dxe4 27.d5 Nb4 28.dxe6 + Kc8 29.e7 Nxa2 + 30.Kb1 Qf7 31.Qd5 1-0

**B**oth Bareev and Polgar lost (to Nunn and Polugaevsky), while I missed what would have been the prettiest finish of the tournament in failing to beat third-



placed Speelman. Sadler splatted Gurevich to keep his chances of a GM-norm alive.

*KI 26.1 King's Indian Averbakh E73*  
GM Evgeny Bareev  
GM Jon Speelman

*Hastings (12) 1992/3*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6  
5.Be2 O-O 6.Bg5 Na6 7.h4 c5 8.d5 Nc7  
9.Qd2 e6 10.e5 dxe5 11.d6 Nce8 12.Rd1

Hoping to improve on the Polgar game.

12...Qd7 13.Qe3 b6 14.Nf3 Nh5!

The trouble with many pawn-sac lines in the King's Indian is that Black can simply sac back the Exchange, keep control of the all the dark squares and hope to pick up a second pawn. Here is another example.

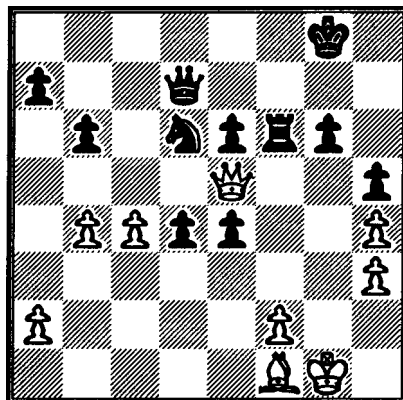
15.Be7 f6 16.Bxf8 Bxf8 17.Ne4 Nf4  
18.O-O Bg7 19.Rfe1 Bb7 20.Bf1 Bh6  
21.Qc3 Bxe4 22.Rxe4 Nxd6

The second pawn.

23.Ree1 e4 24.Nh2 f5 25.Qe5 Rd8  
26.Rxe4!? Nh3 +

Disrupting the pawn structure. 26...fxe4 27.Ng4 Bg7 is not so clear; 27...Nh3 + transposes to the game.

27.gxh3 fxe4 28.Ng4 Bg7 29.Qg5 Rf8  
30.b4 Bd4 31.Rxd4 cxd4 32.Qe5 h5!  
33.Nf6 + Rxf6



One could imagine a 1990s version of Irving Chernev scouring the computer databases looking for earlier games with four Exchange sacrifices. Of course, Rooks aren't that special in outpost-rich, open-line-free types of positions.

34.Qxf6 d3 35.Qd4 Qc6 36.f3 Nf5

37.Qd8 + Kh7 38.fxe4 Qxe4 39.Qxd3  
Qxh4 40.Qd7 + Kh6 41.Qxe6 Qxd4 +  
42.Kh1 Qf2 43.Bg2 Ng3 + 44.Kh2 Ne2  
0-1

A game with a nice flow to it. Black was always in control.

*NI 21.3 Nimzo-Indian E39*  
IM Colin Crouch  
GM Jon Speelman

*Hastings (12) 1992/3*

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Qc2 O-O  
5.Nf3 c5 6.dxc5 Na6 7.g3 Nxc5 8.Bg2

Attempting to avoid the dreariness of trying to force an advantage in the 5.a3 lines. In the next round Polugaevsky walked into my opening innovation, but found an antidote: 8...Nce4 9.O-O Nxc3 10.bxc3 Be7 11.Bf4 d6 12.c5!? dxc5 13.c4! Nd7! 14.Rab1 Qe8! 15.Bc7 Bd8 16.Bd6 Be7 17.Bc7 Bd8 18.Bd6, draw. And I had fondly thought the sac was lethal...

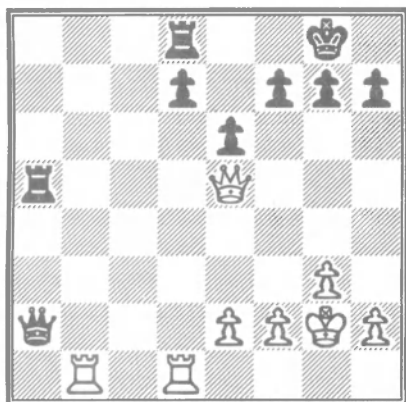
8...b6 9.O-O Bb7 10.Bf4 Nce4 11.Nxe4  
Bxe4 12.Qa4 Be7 13.Rfd1 Qc8 14.Ne5  
Bxg2 15.Kxg2 Rd8 16.Bg5 a6! 17.Bxf6 b5  
18.cxb5 Bxf6 19.Nf3 Bxb2 20.Rab1 axb5

21.Qxb5 Bf6 22.a4 Qc2 23.a5 Qa2 24.Ne5! Bxe5

As 24...Rxa5 25.Qxd7! is good for White.

25.Qxe5 Rxa5??

25...Qxa5 26.Qxa5 Rxa5 27.Rxd7 draw agree, would have been more sensible.



White to play and win.

26.Rxd7?? Rf8 27.Rb2 Rxe5 Draw

Missing 26.Rb8! Ra8 27.Ra1!, winning (27...Qxa1 28.Rxd8 +; 27...Rdxb8 28.Rxa2). Some wonderful geometry and a problem theme with one White Rook clearing the line for the other. But my opponent saw it a half-move too late, and I saw it not at all!

**B**areev extended his lead to a full point by grinding Speelman, while Polgar saved a lost Rook-and-pawn ending in Sadler's time trouble. Despite this, Evgeny looked incredibly anxious at the dinner table that evening. I was puzzled; I did not understand. Then I saw everything. It was fear of heights, one helluva big drop if he should lose. Winning a tournament is just business as usual if you are the seventh-rated player in the world, and indeed Bareev had already won Hastings twice. But to be pegged back to equal first after losing a second critical game to a sixteen-year-old – now that is too horrendous to contemplate. Yet the unthinkable was one of three possible results which had to be considered. I fancy that I saw momentarily in Bareev's eyes a look of mental paralysis which foreshadowed the result of the next day's game. At dinner we soon talked about something else, but destiny had its say, and on the next day the wee Hungarian lass took another big step forward in her career.

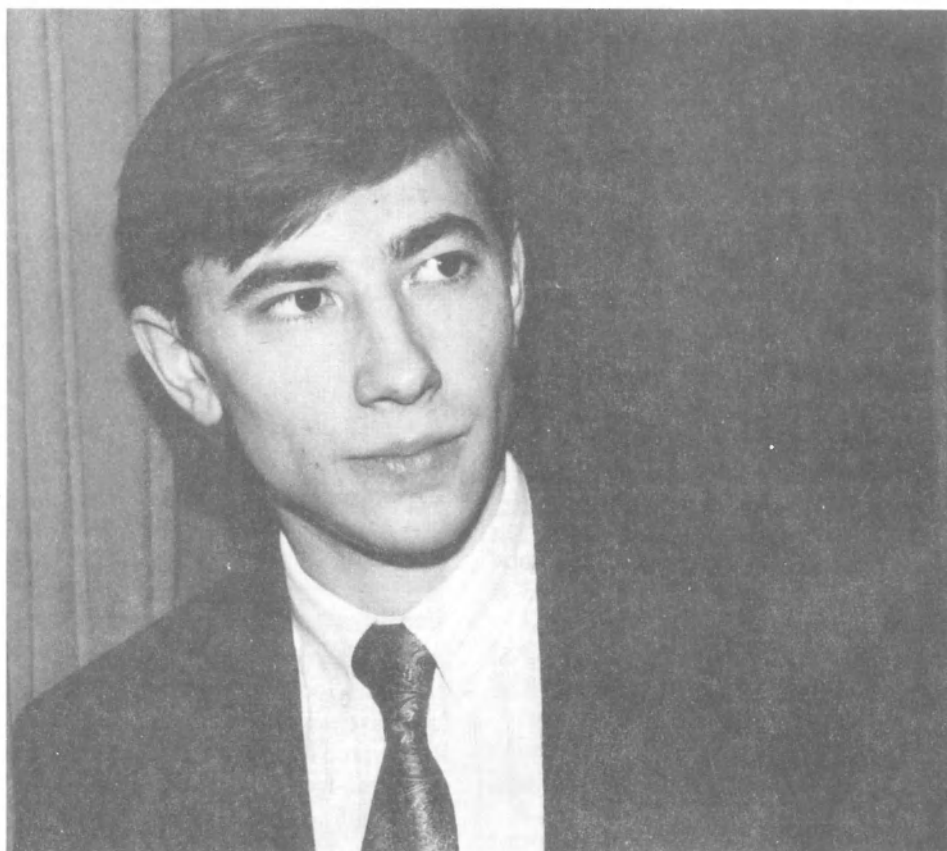


Photo by: Caroline Winkler

GM Evgeny Bareev

### FR 7.2 French Defense C10

GM Judit Polgar  
GM Evgeny Bareev

Hastings (14) 1992/3

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 dxe4 5.Nxe4 Nbd7 6.Nf3 h6 7.Nxf6+ Nxf6 8.Be3!? Bd6

8...Nd5!? 9.Qd2 Bd6 10.O-O-O Bd7 11.Ne5 Bxe5 12.dxe5 Qe7 13.Be2 Bc6 14.f4 O-O-O 15.Bd4 g5! 16.fxg5 Qxg5 17.Rhf1 Ne3! 18.Qxe3 Rxd4 19.Qxg5 Rxd1+ 20.Kxd1 hxg5 21.Rxf7 Rxh2 22.Bg4 draw, Polgar-Speelman, round 10.

9.Qd3! b6

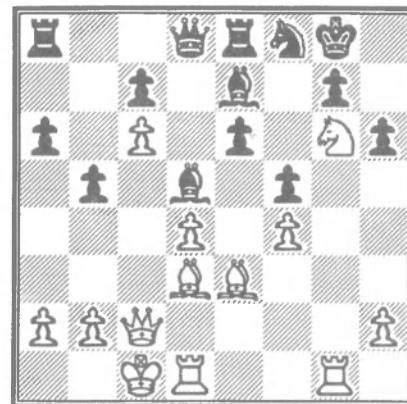
Maybe again 9...Nd5. After the text Black looks dangerously passive, yet 9...O-O allows White to prepare the standard attack with g4-g5.

10.Ne5 Bb7 11.Qb5+ Nd7 12.O-O-O a6 13.Qb3 b5 14.c4 O-O 15.f4 Be4 16.c5 Be7 17.Bd3 Bxg2?

Black's position has been difficult for some time, but this is almost rabbit-meets-python stuff; every elementary text will tell you that you shouldn't open up lines like this. Black's best shot seems to be the Exchange sac 17...Nxe5! 18.Bxe4 Nc4! 19.Bxa8 (19.d5!? Qc8!?) 19...Qxa8.

I do not doubt that Black is still worse, but the disadvantage is probably slight in that White has by far the worst minor piece on the board, she is weak on the light squares, she has severally potentially weak pawns and Black has no real weaknesses for White to attack.

18.Rhg1 Bd5 19.Qc2 f5 20.Ng6 Re8 21.c6 Nf8



21...Nf6 22.Ne5 is to be considered, but after Rg6 and Rdg1 by White, something is likely to give on the kingside.

22.Ne5 Bh4 23.Qe2 Qf6 24.Qh5 Red8 25.Rxg7+ Kxg7 26.Rg1+ Kh8 27.Nf7+ Kh7 28.Nxh6 1-0